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Check out this columnist's picks!

HIP HOP A9



Men's tennis team
takes on Amherst

SPORTS B12

the johns hopkins News-Letter

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NANCY KIM/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The five Panhellenic sororities fiercely competed in the annual Powderpuff football tournament, which was coached by fraternity brothers.

Phi Mu trounces competition in Powderpuff

By JACQUI NEBER
Staff Writer

Phi Mu won its third consecutive Panhellenic Powderpuff tournament on the Practice Field Sunday, defeating all four other Panhellenic sororities in the annual flag football competition.

The Powderpuff tour-

namment has been included in Greek Week since 2006, but this year the event was pushed back to a later date.

Lindsay Kiernan, a senior Kappa Kappa Gamma (Kappa) sister who helped plan Greek Week, said that the intensity of the competition was a contributing factor in the date change.

"[Powderpuff] can either be a lot of fun, or get really scary intense if the other team is rude," Kiernan said.

This change did not significantly impact the sororities' preparations for the tournament. Each sorority team is paired up with coaches, who are all fraternity members. The

teams and coaches meet several times in the weeks prior to the tournament to learn and practice.

Junior Ike Amakiri, a Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) brother who coached the Phi Mu team, commended his team's dedication in practice and in play.

"The games have been

SEE POWDERPUFF, PAGE A5

Sophomore dies in an apparent suicide

By JACK BARTHOLET
Editor-in-Chief

Sophomore Yangkai Li died at an apartment building near campus on Wednesday afternoon, Vice Provost for Student Affairs Kevin Shollenberger and Dean of Student Life Terry Martinez announced in an email to the community late Wednesday night.

According to the Baltimore City Police Department (BPD), the death was an apparent suicide.

"We are investigating a suicide," BPD Spokesperson Detective Jeremy Silbert said. "At this time, it appears to be a suicide."

BPD received word of the incident and responded at 2:28 p.m.

"When police arrived, they found the body of a 20-year-old who appeared to have jumped from the building," Silbert said. He stated that the address of the building was 105 W. 39th St. The Broadview

Apartments complex is listed at that address.

Upon arriving at the scene, police spoke to witnesses, including members of the Baltimore Fire Department (BFD) who had watched the incident occur. Silbert stated that Li did access the roof of the building. Silbert was unaware of the accessibility of the roof or how Li may have gained entry.

Under Maryland state law, an autopsy is required for any death by suicide.

"The body was transported to the Medical Examiner's Office where it will undergo an autopsy," Silbert said.

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Olmstead lot will be turned into apartments

By CATHERINE PALMER
Staff Writer

Construction will begin on an apartment and retail complex in the open lot at the corner of St. Paul and 33rd Streets in April, the University announced Wednesday.

The complex, which the University is tentatively calling 3200 St. Paul, is expected to include 157 student apartments, a parking structure and 31,500 sq. ft. of commercial space, including a 10,500 sq. ft. pharmacy.

Although the building will be designed to house juniors and seniors, the apartments will be leased on the open market rather than incorporated into the University housing system.

Alan Fish, vice president for facilities and real estate, said this setup will benefit both the University and the students.

"We have put a package together where we ask for proposals from

SEE BUILDING, PAGE A4

Donilon talks current foreign policy dynamics

By TONY SUN
For The News-Letter

Former National Security Advisor Thomas E. Donilon joined Professor Steven David in Shriver Hall to discuss his career and his views on current foreign policy.

Donilon's political career began at a young age. He attributes his interests in part to a uniquely political family dynamic, which encouraged him to pursue

a career in public service.

"I've always had a deep interest in politics," Donilon said. "My mother was a union organizer, and my father was head of the school board, so politics were always discussed at our dinner table."

"I've always had a deep interest in politics... politics were always discussed at our dinner table."

— Tom Donilon

advisor to the Carter administration. At the age of 23, Donilon was one of the youngest political advisors on the team.

Donilon credits Warren Christopher, the secretary of state in President Bill Clinton's administration,

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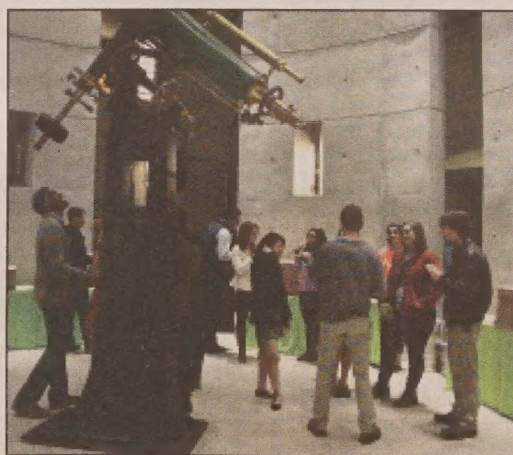
Alums return for YAW festivities

By EMILY MENKEN
For The News-Letter

More than 2,100 recent graduates returned to Homewood from Friday through Sunday for Young Alumni Weekend (YAW) to reconnect and network with their former classmates.

This year's YAW had five percent more attendees than last year's event. Seven hundred members of the Class of 2014 attended, along with 300 members of the Class of 2013, 125 members of the Class of 2011 and 150 members of the Class of 2012.

"The weekend is a chance to reunite with friends who have moved to various cities since graduating and can come back to one place they know well," Eta Flamholz, an alumni relations associate in the Reunion and Homecoming Office, said. "Reuniting seems to be especially key for the most recent graduating class has only been off campus for three months and is still transitioning. For this class, Young Alumni Weekend



MANYU SHARMA/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Young alumni socialize in Bloomberg Hall during the Tent Party.

is a chance to regroup and check-in with each other."

Debra Schwitzer, a 2014 graduate who now works in consulting for Deloitte in New York City, said that YAW brought back fond memories of her undergraduate experience.

"You realize as the four years progress and certainly after you leave how great your experience at Hopkins was," Schwitzer said. "It's a really bittersweet feeling. You

miss even the struggling nights, because everyone was in it together."

The weekend kicked off Friday evening at Pratt Street Ale House.

On Saturday morning, the Class of 2014 reunited over a Bon Appétit-catered brunch, while current students had a chance to network at the Bridge 5 Luncheon. Classes of 2011 through 2013 gave advice about Hopkins and

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NEWS & FEATURES

Recycling program lags behind schedule

By TIFFANY LE
Staff Writer

For the past two months, junior Mengli Shi has hauled giant white trash bags filled with cereal boxes, plastic bottles and aluminum cans across the street. She lives in The Marylander Apartments at 3501 St. Paul St., which doesn't have a recycling program for its residents. But a bill that Governor Martin O'Malley signed will require apartment complexes in the state to have recycling bins by Nov. 1.

"As a state, it's in our best interests for our prosperity, for

our sustainability and for our way of life that we take positive steps towards a zero-waste future where nothing is wasted," O'Malley said. He signed House Bill 1 in the spring of 2012.

The recycling law has been in the works for several years. Delegate Stephen Lafferty, who represents District 42 in the Maryland House of Delegates, proposed the bill in 2011. State Senator James Brochin of District 42 had raised the issue that his mother didn't have recycling in her apartment building.

"We needed to have better recycling programs, and why not include apartments and condominiums — not just homes?" Lafferty said.

The state's Environmental Matters Committee, on which he serves, did not approve the first draft of the bill. Since the bill initially applied to all apartment complexes, he modified it so that only buildings with more than 10 dwelling units had to recycle.

When he reintroduced the bill in early 2012, it was approved by the committee, as well as the House of Delegates, State Senate and the governor himself. However, the bill did not become law until Oct. 1 of this year.

"We had to give every government an opportunity to decide how to report recycling and how to implement the program," Lafferty said.

So when Shi, an environmental engineering and public health double major, decided to live at The Marylander in February, she didn't know that there wasn't a recycling program.

"Maybe I would have reconsidered," Shi said.

Since she moved into the building in August, Shi has had to carry her recyclables across St. Paul Street and into an alley between Wolman Hall and Barnes & Noble. She then leaves her trash bags in a massive dumpster full of other recyclables.

"It's pretty inconvenient," Shi said.

After multiple complaints to the leasing office, Shi, an active environmentalist at Hopkins, learned that The Marylander used to recycle but stopped their program.

"No one knew how to recycle, and the recycling got messy," Shi said. "It

was just like a dumpster, and it wasn't very systemized."

Then one day Shi inquired about the recycling program at the office again. She received news that The Marylander would implement a recycling program because House Bill 1 required it.

"They told me it would happen by the end of the month," Shi said. "They said there would be recycling bins on every floor."

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— GOV. MARTIN O'MALLEY

Although her account contradicts what Shi said she was told, Rice said that the complex does plan to eventually recycle. The Marylander's manager, Wendy Morgan, could not be reached for comment.

Jennifer Combs, a public information officer at the Baltimore City Department of Public Works, said that although the law went into effect on Oct. 1, building managers have until Nov. 1 to comply with the new law.

If managers do not provide recycling services by this date, representatives from the Department of Public Works will make on-site visits. If managers still refuse to provide recycling after that, the city will enforce fines.

According to Jay Apperson, communications director at the Maryland Department of the Environment, there will be a penalty of up to \$50 per day of violation.

Regardless of when The Marylander starts recycling, Shi said she hopes the office will give all residents information about how to properly recycle. She asked administrators if she could help spread the word, but they declined her offer.

"You have to reach out to every person," Shi said. "You can't just put a random flyer on the elevator that recycling's coming. That's where they failed last time."

Shi said she thought the new legislation was key to a change for the better.

"In the end, this act is what made The Marylander do something," Shi said. O'Malley said that young people are much more likely to know how to recycle. Thus, the new law will have an impact on buildings like The Marylander, where a significant portion of the residents are students.

"People under 40 especially are much more conscious of how their choices and actions affect the environment and everyone around them," O'Malley said. "I think House Bill 1 was one very positive step forward in that direction."

Students Educating and Empowering for Diversity (SEED) held its first event of the year, called "Domestic Violence in the Media," on Oct. 9. The SEED team led a discussion on the misconceptions about domestic violence in the media and how they lead to societal stigmas.

SEED began the meeting by showing a video of bystanders' reactions to domestic abuse in public. The video depicted two separate instances of domestic abuse, both of which were performed by actors.

The first altercation involved a man verbally and physically attacking a woman. Within a minute or two, bystanders had rushed to the aid of the women and threatened the man that they would call the police.

The second altercation involved the same woman and man, but the woman was attacking the man verbally and physically. In response to this simulation, bystanders laughed and made no efforts to stop the woman or to help the man. According to the Centers for Disease Control, over 40 percent of the victims of physical domestic abuse are men.

Following this video, SEED led a discussion about domestic abuse and societal stigmas.

"I think the [saddest] part [of the video] was that it wasn't that surprising to see people not react as dramatically when the roles were reversed," freshman Jessa Wais said.

Sophomore Ellie Park pointed out that given the stigma associated with abuse against men, male victims probably experience the effects of abuse differently than female victims.

"It makes me wonder what different repercussions the two sexes go through after [experiencing] domestic violence because... I would assume that they are very different," Park said.

Junior Diamond Hale then led an icebreaker activity in which she read a series of statements that aimed to reflect common opinions about abuse. In order to allow people to answer freely, all attendees were asked to close their eyes and raise their hands yea or nay.

After the activity, Hale asked attendees to discuss the statements that particularly affected them.

Junior Evan Mitchell commented on a statement that all cases of domestic abuse are of the same severity and should be treated in the same manner.

"I feel like that is a hard question, because I feel like there [are] levels to domestic violence. There can be worse domestic violence in certain relationships than [in] others," Mitchell said.

"But, at the same time, domestic violence is domestic violence."

Wais responded to a statement that victims of domestic abuse have an obligation to report and leave the relationship they are in.

"I think that's a really tough question because it's hard, especially when you're not the victim, to [tell the victim] 'I think you should do this,'" Wais said.

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SEED hosts discussion on domestic violence

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make a judgment about all domestic violence cases. All cases aren't the same."

The discussion then shifted to focus on the Ray Rice assault case. In February, Rice, a former Baltimore Ravens running back, was having an argument with his then-fiancée Janay Palmer in a casino elevator. Rice struck Palmer, who hit her head on the elevator railing and fell to the floor, unconscious.

Initially, the NFL responded by giving Rice a two-game suspension. However, after TMZ released the footage of Rice striking his wife, Rice was released from the Ravens and suspended indefinitely by the NFL.

"A lot of people after the video came out were like, 'Oh, why isn't she leaving him? Why is she marrying him?' I think that's more problematic than the video itself being released," sophomore Dikshant Malla said.

"Not everyone needs to be like 'Oh, you should do this; you should do that' because at the end of the day it's still her private life, and it's her relationship."

Hale brought up the question of whether Rice had forced Palmer to make the statement.

"Of course, I can't demand she tell me why she wants to stay. If she [is] going to marry him, I believe there was some amount of love or something before this situation happened [and] probably still after this situation," Hale said.

Hale then mentioned the incident between Solange Knowles and Jay-Z Carter. Knowles attacked Carter in an elevator at the Met Gala in May, and Beyoncé Knowles, Carter's wife, did nothing to intervene. Hale asked attendees about their responses to that incident.

"I'm not saying this is justifying Solange's action, but I feel like it's a little bit easier for the public to let her actions slide because she's a very small, feminine little thing, and Jay-Z has that persona of being a rapper. Ray Rice is a big football player and has also a very small, feminine wife," sophomore Sara Analoui said.

"Not that those things should excuse any of the actions, but it just makes it easier for the public to sort of put more blame on Ray Rice because he has that physical force to knock Janay out, [whereas] Solange probably could not knock Jay-Z out."

Hale remarked on inherent biases in the responses to the videos of Janay and Ray Rice and of Solange and Jay-Z.

"When I saw the Solange and Jay-Z, there was an immediate response like, 'Oh, what did Jay-Z do? It was his fault. He started it,'" Hale said.

"But then when I saw the Ray Rice and Janay one, I saw the beginning of the video and her slapping him. And then they get in the elevator, and it gets worse, and he actually physically hits her. And then you see him dragging her out of the elevator. So no, I don't believe that any man should hit a woman in response to what she does, but there was no [response to her actions]. It was [seen as] all his fault."

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Hale was referring to the moment before Rice and Palmer got into the elevator. The video shows her backhanding him, seemingly in response to something that he said. However, he showed no signs of pain following the slap.

"There was this huge [response] that he shouldn't get his NFL contract taken away," Hale said. "No one was worried about Janay until she said she that wasn't going to leave."

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NEWS & FEATURES

SGA discusses JHMI, launches Flightplan

By JORDYN GREENBLATT
Staff Writer

Executive President Janice Bonsu began Tuesday's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting by telling the members about a new volunteering opportunity.

The members were given the opportunity to volunteer for the Henderson-Hopkins School where they would be talking to middle school students about their college experiences.

"It will be kind of like a meet and greet," Bonsu said. "It's called 'College Day.'"

The SGA is also looking for ways to get other students, who do not plan on volunteering, involved in the organization. Bonsu talked about the importance of involving more students who are specifically interested in technology and media.

"We already have someone really interested in graphic design," Bonsu said.

Executive Vice President Kyra Toomre and Senior Class President Destiny Bailey will both be attending the Alumni Council dinner on Friday. The president's term for the council is coming to an end, and the new president is about to step in.

"It's really cool because the past presidents have lived in California, and another in London, but the new president is actually from Baltimore," Toomre said.

Toomre also went on to compliment the new Freshman Class Council.

"The meeting was unbelievably productive," Toomre said. "You guys have some really awesome ideas."

Another event Toomre spoke about was the Commemoration Ball. SGA has gotten substantial funding from alumni and is looking to gain even more. Event attendance is also expected to rise significantly from last year's 300 attendees.

"Attendance will be at least 600, 700 people, especially because it's on a Friday," Toomre said. "The tradition started last year as a formal black and blue ball held at the Engineers' Club downtown."

Next, Executive Treasurer Will Szymanski briefly discussed the budget and SGA's sustainability project.

"We want to focus on getting students to green events," Szymanski said.

Szymanski also mentioned hosting SGA events at the Homewood Museum.

"We might possibly have a wine and cheese night for the seniors," Szymanski said.

Executive Secretary Adelaide Morphet briefly talked about the new project she spearheaded, a blog called Flightplan, which focuses on transportation at Hopkins. The blog is up and running,

and Morphet encouraged all of the SGA members to share the link on Facebook.

Next, the meeting switched gears to committee reports. The newly-opened Bamboo Café has been getting complaints about the inconsistency of their bubble tea. SGA is trying to organize a student focus group to start taste-testing the drinks.

Syed Hossain, sophomore class president, also discussed improving the weekend JHMI transportation system.

Junior Class President Jahan Mirchandani talked about a successful junior class barbeque that was recently held.

"We ran out of food and apple pie, so we had to order pizza," Mirchandani said. "The junior class really appreciates that we make the transition off of the meal plan easier with food-oriented events."

Mirchandani said an upcoming event for juniors will be held at the Fresh Food Café (FFC) on Nov. 7 from 5-6:30 p.m. The FFC will lower their meal price to \$7.99 and offer special menu items, including mozzarella sticks and spring rolls, during this upcoming event.

Freshman Class Council President Ana Du stated that the council had just held its first meeting. She said that they are planning a winter formal in December as one of their first big events.

A major point of new business involved an idea for an SGA-mediated body that links students from different groups together. A guest, senior Jake Stern, pitched his idea to the SGA at the meeting.

"I really noticed a lapse in communication in many different student groups," Stern said.

His proposal entailed student leaders on campus coming together on a monthly basis for a structured town-hall style meeting.

"This is where student groups will be able to

talk about things that are bothering people," Stern said.

"We want to focus on getting students to green events."

— WILL SZYMANSKI, SGA EXECUTIVE TREASURER

Many of the SGA members praised this idea and thought it would help groups be more organized as well and allowed for direct communication with the SGA.

"It is all about inclusion. I want to bring in smaller groups on campus as well," Stern said.

Some measures of old business were brought up again during this meeting.

Because an extra hour was added to the Fell's Point Halloween bus initiative, the SGA would need to raise its budget for the event to \$1,300.

Toomre suggested that SGA find another source of funding to lower costs.

"The buses are expected and are a necessity," senior class Senator Jensen Reiter said.

Mirchandani moved to vote, and the bill to raise the budget was passed with an overwhelming majority.

Office of LGBTQ Life celebrates coming out

By SERA YOO
Staff Writer

The Office of LGBTQ Life hosted their first-ever National Coming Out Party on Oct. 9 in Charles Commons to celebrate LGBTQA members of the Hopkins community.

National Coming Out Day is a globally celebrated event and usually occurs annually on Oct. 11.

"National Coming Out Day has been celebrated every year for [26 years] out of a desire to honor folks who are LGBTQA [and] are living out proud lives," Demere G. Woolway, director of LGBTQ Life and the organizer of the event, said.

Student Intern Christianne Marguerite talked about how this event related to Hopkins.

"This event is celebrating the OUTlist and the allies. The OUTlist is a list of Johns Hopkins-affiliated students, staff [and] faculty members who are out and who wish to be publicly visible on the online list in order to be there as a support system for people who are interested in networking

and connecting with the people on the OUTlist, as well as the list of allies who have been through the safe zone training and are safe spaces or people to go to and talk to about LGBTQ and allied issues," Marguerite said.

According to the Hopkins OUTlist website, the list was launched on the National Coming Out Day of 2011.

At the event, there was a large table with various pamphlets for coming out and guides for the members of the LGBTQ community.

One pamphlet, "Coming Out as a Supporter: A Guide to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Americans," offered many tips and facts for people with friends and family who have come out. This pamphlet, along with almost all of the pamphlets available, gave additional resources such as national LGBT organizations, religious organizations and hotlines.

The same table offered free rainbow pens and rainbow pins. There were also separate tables with rainbow scratch paper in the shapes of human silhouettes. The people

who came to the event created their own individual person out of the rainbow scratch paper. These rainbow cut-outs and the poster that everyone signed



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
This event celebrated LGBTQA pride and community.

will be at the opening ceremony of the LGBTQA's office at the end of October.

"This event celebrates [the allies of LGBTQ] by giving a small gift of the pin, and this event is basically celebrating community in general and the importance of being visible and the importance of National Coming Out Day," Marguerite said.

There was also a slide presentation that quoted anonymous members of the LGBT community who shared their coming out stories.

"I 'came out' upon entering a serious relation-

ship with an individual of my own gender. I do not define my personality by sexuality. As such, I never felt the need to make the process a big deal. I do not hide it, but I do not advertise it," one slide read.

The event was largely a social gathering for people to create a stronger community of LGBTQA members.

According to the "LGBTQ Life Report: 2013-2014," LGBTQ Life hopes to create a speakers bureau program, increase awareness in classrooms and focus on LGBT students of color and transgender students in the future.

Squyres discusses Mars Rover mission

By NATHAN BICK
Staff Writer

As part of the Physics and Astronomy Colloquium, Steven Squyres held a talk titled "Science Results from the Mars Exploration Mission," which focuses on his work with the Mars Exploration Rover (MER) program for NASA.

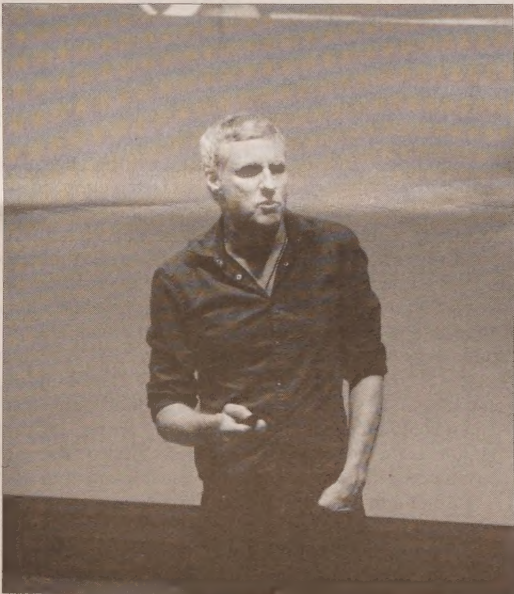
Held Oct. 9 in the Schaefer Auditorium in the Bloomberg Center for Physics and Astronomy, Squyres's talk focused on how his work in studying Martian geology contributes to determining whether Mars has ever been a habitable planet.

Squyres is a James A. Weeks Professor of Physical Sciences at Cornell University, and was a principal investigator of the Mars Rover mission. His work on Mars revolves around the robotic exploration of Mars, Martian geology and tectonics and the history of water on Mars.

Squyres said that mainstream media reports about water on Mars, and public excitement about what that means for life on Mars is not fully justified. Many, including Squyres and his team, search for ancient clues as to the presence of water on Mars. The presence of water suggests the possibility of life-sustaining conditions.

Squyres also spoke about the hostility of conditions on Mars, such as the acidity of its environment. He presented data and pictures taken from the surface of Mars using Spirit and Opportunity, the two rovers sent to Mars as part of the MER mission.

Launched in 2003 to undertake a 90-Martian day mission, Spirit and Opportunity greatly exceeded expectations for both the duration of their activity and the quantity of the data they collected, according to Squyres. Spirit ceased communication in 2010, while Opportunity remains active today. Squyres used the measurement tools on



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Steven Squyres presented on NASA's recent rover mission to Mars.

Opportunity in order to explore Mars.

The presentation began with a description of the scientific instruments and observation tools in the rover's payload, as well as an overview of Opportunity's path through different Martian craters and plains.

"I enjoyed hearing about the wide range of the mission's results in detail," Lauren Aldoroty, a sophomore physics major, said.

Opportunity landed in Gusev Crater, which initially appeared to be an ancient lake with sedimentary rock connected to what appeared to be a riverbed. However, as the rover took measurements, it became clear that the geology reflected volcanic activity rather than water activity. Traveling from the Gusev crater to the Columbia Hill and onto Home Plate, Opportunity found evidence of water, both in acidic and neutral conditions, in the forms of silicon deposits and wave erosion.

Squyres presented several photos comparing the Martian samples with those found on Earth.

"The thing that really stood out to me was how the pictures of Mars looked

like they could have been taken here on Earth," Rodrigo Aguilar, a sophomore physics major, said.

In the middle of presenting his team's findings about Martian geology and water history, Squyres transitioned the discussion to recreational Martian astronomy.

Squyres showed photographs that Opportunity took of a Martian partial solar eclipse, a lunar eclipse and Phobos and Deimos, the two Martian moons. He also presented a photo capturing a meteor burning up in a blaze of bright green in the atmosphere above Mars.

After this interlude, Squyres returned to Opportunity's exploration of Martian geology. For three years, Opportunity traveled to reach Endeavor crater, a formation far more enormous and ancient than the ones it had previously visited. Endeavor closely resembles the Ries crater, which is located in Western Bavaria, Germany.

Opportunity found clay in Endeavor, which Squyres explained is good evidence of water, as well as neutral pH conditions. He emphasized that this finding is a noteworthy scientific breakthrough.

Hopkins Hospital opens new building

By EMILY HERMAN
News & Features Editor

The Johns Hopkins Hospital unveiled the renovated Nelson/Harvey buildings, which include 136 new private patient rooms and sleeping accommodations and respite areas for patients' family members, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony Wednesday.

Patients will begin moving into the new rooms next Tuesday. The renovations are part of the hospital's redevelopment initiative to convert all of their patient rooms to private accommodations with an emphasis on comfort and modernization.

The Nelson/Harvey buildings will primarily house patients in the Department of Medicine, as well as the Departments of Pulmonology, Gastroenterology and Cardiology.

"We want patients to have first-class care, and that starts the moment they step on our campus," Ronald R. Peterson, president of the Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health System and executive vice president of Johns Hopkins Medicine, said. "A lot of thought and care has gone into this project, and it shows."

The Nelson/Harvey renovations were modeled to emulate the Charlotte R. Bloomberg Children's Center and the Sheikh Zayed Tower, which houses the Heart and Vascular Institute. Those buildings opened in May 2012 after one of the largest hospital construction projects in U.S. history.

The last phase in the hospital's redevelopment initiative is the renovation of the Meyer Building, which will offer 48 new private rooms and 18 rehabilitation rooms by mid-2016. Construction is slated to begin next month.

NEWS & FEATURES

Polyglot author holds book signing at B&N

Lewis gives advice on acquiring languages

By ALEXIS GAILLARD
For *The News-Letter*

Benny Lewis, world traveler and language connoisseur, visited the Johns Hopkins Barnes & Noble on Sunday to sign copies of his book, *Fluent in 3 Months*. As part of his book tour, Lewis is visiting every state and province in the U.S. and Canada, but Hopkins has special significance for the author.

"I actually was a teacher for Johns Hopkins — a mathematics teacher at their summer camp, Center for Talented Youth, so I have a connection with the University," Lewis said. "So the idea of actually presenting my book in the bookstore by the University was really important to me."

At the age of 21, Lewis, an electronic engineer, could only speak English.

"I studied Irish for 11 years and couldn't say 'my name is,'" Lewis said.

After living in Spain for six months, Lewis was unable to speak conversational Spanish. He considered himself to be a failed language learner who had become frustrated with conventional language acquisition methods.

In *Fluent in 3 Months*, Lewis, after studying thousands of different language learning methods, synthesizes the commonalities between successful language learning techniques in order to overcome his personal linguistic failures.

Lewis considers people's mentality to be their primary barrier to learning a language. Age, lack of time and other excuses may pile up, but Lewis lives by an old adage by Henry Ford: "Whether you think you can or you think you can't — you're right."

Lewis said that everyone has the time to learn a language; If you are driven, you will find the time. Once, he studied a language during his three-block walk to lunch.

"You find ways to make a few sacrifices to make the time to learn your language," said Lewis. "One thing I highly recommend to people is to speak the language from day one."

Lewis compared language learning to riding a bicycle. No one buys books titled *Bike Riding for Dummies*, completes a myriad of exercises, spends hundreds of dollars on *Rosetta Bike Riding* and studies bike riding for two years before getting on a bike. Lewis encouraged language students to begin speaking the language as soon as they begin learning it, regardless of their limited vocabulary or imperfect grammar.

"I have a goal of making 200 mistakes a day when I am learning a language," Lewis said.

Lewis uses context clues to begin speaking a new language and advocates learning grammar later.

"The purpose of grammar is to tidy up your lan-

guage; you can't tidy up an empty house," Lewis said.

After summarizing his book, Lewis opened up the floor for questions.

Jonathan Lewis, a high school sophomore from Sharptown, Md., has studied several languages including French, Spanish, Farsi and Italian. He has recently become acquainted with Lewis's book and blog and previously attended a *Fluent in 3 Months* book signing in D.C.

"Benny's philosophy is all about actually speaking and using the language. I have met quite a few people from around the world, and I have gotten a chance to practice my languages. He is a polyglot celebrity," Lewis said.

A polyglot is a person who knows and uses several languages, and Lewis has earned an esteemed position in the polyglot community. Jonathan even sported a shirt designed by Lewis. The front reads "Polyglot," while the customizable back lists the languages that the wearer is fluent in.

A group of Hopkins freshmen who were intent on learning Portuguese also attended the book signing event.

"I came because I'm really interested in spending time in Brazil, and I want to meet other people who speak Portuguese and learn more about how to learn languages," freshman Sophie Eidelman said.

Lewis did advocate immersion as the best way to learn a new language.

"Immersion is open to you right here. There are amazing ways to immerse yourself in a language without ever buying a plane ticket," said Lewis.

As a closing exercise for the group, Lewis encouraged his audience to reach out to their neighbors, converse in different languages and begin bilingual relationships. The linguaphiles at the book signing spoke Spanish, Portuguese and a myriad of other languages.

In an increasingly English-driven world, the merit of learning another language may seem to be diminishing. Lewis, however, views multilingualism as a valuable professional skill. His language abilities have helped him in his career and feels that it could help others as well.

"It's rather lazy to get [people from non-English speaking countries] to learn your [language]," Lewis said. "Having learned languages opened up my résumé and made me way more employable compared to any other engineer."

Lewis feels that fluency in additional languages is not a dying talent, but rather a highly valuable and attainable skill.

"Languages are a lot easier than people think they are. You just have to think about it the right way," Lewis said.

University unveils plans for 3200 St. Paul

BUILDING, FROM A1

developers to build housing and retail and parking on this site so that Hopkins money would not have to be pertinent to building this [complex]," Fish said. "We were looking for more of a market-rate product where juniors and seniors can have Hopkins [not] directly managing the facility. Many students [have] given us a strong indication that they were looking for housing in the market rather than in dormitory rooms for their upperclass years. It's a model that's used throughout the country for upperclass undergraduate housing."

According to Fish, the majority of the 157 apartments will have two bedrooms and will be designed to accommodate up to four people per unit.

In addition to creating a new option for student housing, 3200 St. Paul is also planning to meet student health and wellness needs. The complex will include a pharmacy — an addition which Fish said was inspired by student and parent feedback.

"The feedback we've gotten over the last few years has consistently said the number one service that people are looking for [within] walking distance to the Homewood campus and where they live in Charles Village is a pharmacy," Fish said. "Meeting that need was another goal of this project, and our [development] team is in the process of negotiating a final contract with the pharmacy."

Fish said the pharmacy will not be the only new retail development in Charles Village neighborhood.

"There will probably be six or seven other retail developments along both 33rd Street and St. Paul," Fish said. "The idea is to really start building an urban food and entertainment center around Charles Village for not only the students but also for the community and [to] make it even more vibrant with this development."

3200 St. Paul is planned to be 12 stories tall, making it marginally taller than the adjacent Blackstone Apartments at the corner of N. Charles and 33rd Streets.

Reviews have been lukewarm, particularly from older students who will not reap the benefits

of the new complex. Current seniors will not see the completed construction.

"It will block my view, which will be terrible, but I do think they need more restaurants and things around here," senior Edward Staley, a Blackstone resident, said. "You get tired of eating at the same places over and over."

Staley has lived in the Blackstone since his junior year and believes the construction will be a nuisance. However, he said the finished complex, which will open to tenants in the fall of 2016, could be a major improvement to the Charles Village community.

"For me it's going to be terrible because it's just construction, and I'll never get to eat there, but I think for everyone else, it will be good," Staley said.

3200 St. Paul is also set to include a parking structure, but there will only be 162 parking spaces available for tenants and the public. However, Fish does not anticipate that the discrepancy between the number of tenants and the numbers of spots will be a problem.

"The actual mix between what is needed for retail and for tenants will be established by the developer. But this housing is really targeted for juniors and seniors, [and] our experience is that the large majority of [them] don't have cars," Fish said. "The demand for parking by undergraduate students is far lower than if we had market-rate housing for the general public. Since this is really targeted for students, the number of parking stalls is smaller."

Although 3200 St. Paul is meant to provide a brand new housing option near campus for upperclassmen students, the University is still working to find an alternative to the current housing situation for freshman and sophomore students. Over the past three years, the University has had to make accommodations to house underclassmen students via overflow housing in the Hopkins Inn and making all dormitories exclusive for freshman and sophomore students. Fish does not anticipate that the new apartment complex will be used to house freshmen and sopho-

more students.

"It's not planned to be available for overflow housing," Fish said. "In fact, right now, there's a study being undertaken on freshman and sophomore housing capacity and what we need in the future to make sure we can minimize overflow housing. At this time, it doesn't look like this particular development will be needed to handle freshman and sophomores, but that is a very legitimate concern and one that we're studying right now."

The development team

for 3200 St. Paul will disclose their designs for the building to Baltimore City's Urban Design and Architecture Review Panel at a meeting on October 23. The team recently showed their designs to the North Charles Village Planned Unit Development's design review committee.

Should the project be approved, Fish is looking forward to getting construction underway.

"It's been a vacant lot for a long time, so we're very excited to get a project going forward here."

Administration informs the community of student death

LI, FROM A1

Li was a student in the School of Arts & Sciences majoring in physics. According to his Facebook profile, he was from Guangzhou, China and attended the Woodberry Forest School, a boarding school in Woodberry Forest, Va.

The announcement of the death to the Hopkins community was sent through JHBroadcast at 11:35 p.m. In the email, Shollenberger and Martinez wrote that BPD determined that there is no reason to suspect Li's death was the result of a crime, but they did not reveal the circumstances surrounding the death.

"Police, who investigated as a matter of standard procedure, have told us there is no evidence of any crime," Shollenberger and Martinez wrote.

University Spokesperson and Director of Communications Dennis O'Shea refused to further clarify the circumstances of the death, other than to repeat that no evidence of a crime was found.

O'Shea said that numerous University officials have been involved in the situation.

The email from Shollenberger and Martinez indicated that the school administration has notified Li's family.

"We have been in contact tonight with members of Yangkai's family, and are offering them whatever support or assistance the University can provide at this most difficult

moment," Shollenberger and Martinez wrote.

When asked if Li left any sort of note, Silbert stated that BPD has "not received any information about a [suicide] note."

According to Li's Facebook profile, he maintained a publically available blog on Wordpress, titled, "wsad-yk-pblog," in which he wrote three entries.

In his first entry, written on Sept. 20, he referred to what appear to be health problems.

"After some period of sleeplessness and anxiety, my mind at least looks like my own again, you know, with some medication. Certainly, I am much less attentive to the outside world now. Honestly I just wanna be a plain, normal guy, you know, but perhaps that's not the reality, right?" Li wrote. "The most I could do is just to have an everyday life, you see, going to classes, doing homework, get around the campus. Finding joy everyday may not be as easy as it goes... But for me I believe things are getting back where it should be, and that might be just what's needed."

Regarding the aftermath of the tragedy, Shollenberger and Martinez called for unity and supportiveness.

"We know that all Yangkai's friends, classmates and teachers, and anyone who knew him, will be shocked to learn of this great loss to our Johns Hopkins community. We urge you to rely on one another, your families, and University resources for support," Shollenberger and Martinez wrote.

O'Shea affirmed that he anticipates a memorial service will also take place in the near future.

"I'm sure that when we have a chance to arrange something, there will be a ceremony with his friends," O'Shea said late Wednesday night. "We've only been in touch with his family tonight. Some of them are in China."

Shollenberger and Martinez encouraged students to seek emotional support as necessary from the Counseling Center, Campus Ministries, Resident Advisors (RAs) and other Residential Life staff.

"Please be especially vigilant in coming days for opportunities to be helpful to and supportive of each other, and to encourage those who could benefit from the resources we've listed," Shollenberger and Martinez wrote.

Editor's Note: Students can reach the Counseling Center during business hours at 410-516-8378 and through Campus Safety and Security at 410-516-7777 after hours.

Emily Herman and Jane Jeffery contributed.

YAW events reunite recent graduates

ALUMNI, FROM A1

preparing for post-college life.

"[YAW] is definitely a chance for current students and alumni to meet and mingle," Flamholz said. "Events like Bridge 5 mentorship are geared specifically toward this goal and are open to freshmen and sophomores as well."

On Saturday night, a cappella groups including The Vocal Chords, All-Nighters, Kranti, Ketzee and the Mental Notes collaborated for a special YAW concert. After the concert, the annual Tent Party was held outside Bloomberg Hall. Alumni and students over 21 enjoyed complimentary pizza and drinks.

"I think everyone had their fill of pizza and memories," Malachy Duffy, a 2014 graduate said. Duffy is currently studying Elementary

Education at the Hopkins School of Education.

Some of the returning alumni, including 2014 graduate Kyra Levy, reunited with members of their own class. Levy graduated after 3 years and is now working on a Masters in Neuroscience at Drexel University College of Medicine.

"I felt like nothing had changed," Levy said. "My favorite part was seeing my friends, which is really different for me because I graduated early. All my friends are still at Hopkins. I wish I was still [here] with everyone, too."

Although 700 members of the Class of 2014 returned for YAW, some soon-to-be graduates said that they worried about being able to afford the travel expenses to return to Baltimore after graduation.

"Once people have been working a steady job for a few years and have

made relationships outside the Hopkins community, they seem less likely to come back for YAW," senior Liza McGowen, who will graduate in December, said. "Depending on where I am and how expensive it is for me to come back, I plan on returning for YAW. But more than a couple of hundred dollars — probably not."

To encourage young alumni to attend YAW regardless of their financial situation, the Reunion & Homecoming Office is in the process of offering programs that will alleviate travel costs for graduates who have moved far away from Baltimore.

"We're working on programming and travel discounts specific to the classes that graduated three and four years out so that it's easier for them to come back," Flamholz said.

NEWS & FEATURES

Donilon talks about U.S. security in MSE

MSE, FROM A1

with inspiring his transition to policy. Donilon aided the Democratic Party by preparing various presidential candidates for their televised debates. Most recently, he helped prepare U.S. President Barack Obama for his 2008 televised debates against Sen. John McCain (R-AZ).

Due to his experience in foreign policy, Donilon was then selected to serve as Obama's first-term national security advisor.

After discussing his career, Donilon and David, the event's moderator, transitioned to discussing current foreign policy issues. The pair focused specifically on the formation of the terrorist group that calls itself the Islamic State (also called ISIS), Iranian-American relations and Russian-American relations after the annexation of Crimea.

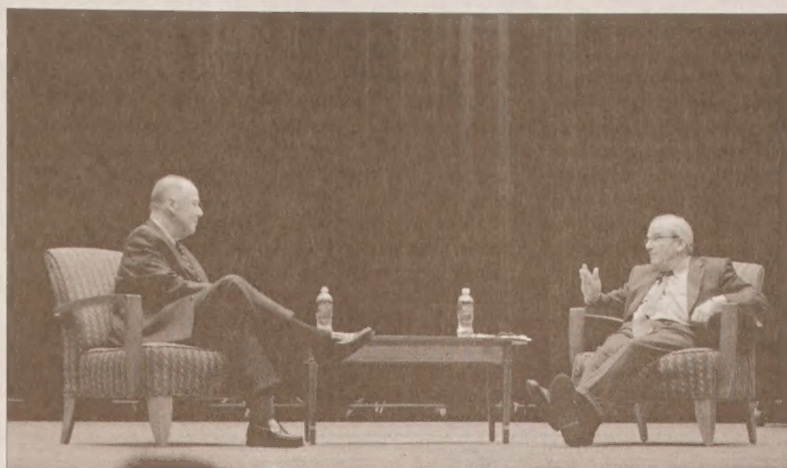
Donilon discussed the Middle Eastern strategy in detail by separating the situations in Iraq and Syria. When asked whether the current situation in Iraq could have been avoided, Donilon reiterated the administration's position that the established Maliki government in Iraq had failed to form an adequately inclusive government.

"It would not have been possible [for ISIS] to move across western Iraq without local indigenous support," Donilon said. "ISIS's allies are a product of alienation, or Maliki's government's specific policy of alienation... is important to understand, as absent of that, ISIS could not have rushed across western Iraq. Because [Maliki's government] took out competent leaders who weren't Shias, he effectively degraded the Iraqi army to the point that it collapsed when faced with a significant challenge."

Donilon's specific policy agenda on Syria was more complex. With no centralized government body with whom to ally, the response to ISIS in Syria was too dependent on finding a key group to provide ground support for the coalition's air forces, according to Donilon.

"It's a little more complicated... arming moderate groups in Syria," Donilon said. "To fight the establishment, you have to have a group to arm. You have to have an organization that can change the balance, and it's exceedingly difficult to find a centralized group capable of opposing [the Assad regime]."

On the topic of a nu-



MANYU SHARMA/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Former National Security Advisor Tom Donilon discussed topics ranging from ISIS to Russian-American relations.

clear Iran, Donilon focused on discussing the upcoming negotiations. He touched on possible outcomes of the dialogue, such as the chance of increased sanctions if the negotiations fail.

"Sanctions force a choice by a state," Donilon said. "If the negotiations fail, if the gulf [between positions] is too big... Congress will then move to put additional economic pressure on Iran."

When asked how far the United States would go to stop a nuclear Iran, Donilon reiterated the positions of the past three presidents.

"I remember several presidents saying nuclear weapons and Iran are unacceptable," Donilon said.

On the topic of Russian-American relations, Donilon focused on Russia's recent annexation

of Crimea. Donilon discussed past relations with Russia, noting that relations were mostly positive before the annexation.

To conclude his talk, Donilon urged students interested in policy and politics to continue pursuing their passions.

"The main piece of advice I would give would be to really involve yourself in policy," Donilon said. "Make the time to stay up to speed. Read history, read politics, read voraciously."

Many students enjoyed hearing Donilon's views.

"I really liked listening to what Donilon had to say," freshman Alex Darwiche said. "His views were really informative, as we got an inside view of the White House which most people never get to have. It was a lot of fun getting to hear someone who isn't politically driven but instead policy driven."

en. He's up there trying to give you the facts."

MSE Marketing Chair Nash Jenkins said that the Symposium thought Donilon would offer a unique perspective on international politics.

"There was an undercurrent of optimism to the Obama presidency," Jenkins said. "We thought it'd be interesting to bring Tom Donilon because he, in many respects, was one of the architects of that optimism in international politics. We were curious to pick his brain and see how he feels his vision for changing America on the global frontier has been realized."

The next guest speaker in the MSE Symposium will be journalist Laura Ling, best known for her time spent incarcerated in North Korea. Ling will speak in Shriver Hall on Oct. 25.

Phi Mu wins third Powderpuff in a row

POWDERPUFF, FROM A1 fun," Amakiri said. "Our first game was a blowout — that's why we practice. The girls put in the work to get the results they want."

Sophomore Kevin Pfau, a Sigma Phi Epsilon (SigEp) brother and Kappa team coach, said that Powderpuff is an important event because it encourages the establishment of partnerships and support between all Greek organizations.

"[Powderpuff] is a great event for Greek Life," Pfau said. "Being in a fraternity, it's cool that we get paired up with different sororities to coach. It helps build our relationship with them. It's good to be out here with all the girls to support them."

In addition to members of Greek organizations, the Powderpuff tournament drew many non-affiliated spectators. Sophomore Mitchell Kelly, a member of the Hopkins men's football team, said he was impressed by the sorority girls on the field. He said he admired the Powderpuff players'

strength, speed and grace.

"Being able to win off athleticism is awesome," Kelly said.

Many players also suffered injuries due to the rough nature of the competition. At one point in the match between Phi Mu and Kappa Alpha Theta (Theta), Alyssa Wenzel, a Theta sophomore, was knocked down by a Phi Mu opponent and injured her knee.

"I was running and someone came and tackled me," Wenzel said.

Senior Theta sister Katie Naymon said that the sorority's relative newness to campus has motivated them to ramp up the intensity in the tournament.

"We've come a long way [since] last year, [when] we were just starting out," Naymon said. "I think we have really wonderful coaches and we already have a lot of new members participating, which is wonderful. Everyone seems really excited about today."

This year, all sororities played against each other

in the tournament. Junior Phi Mu sister Jenny Hansen, who competed in the tournament, said this new structure of Powderpuff created a more fair tournament.

"I hope the sororities like being able to play every other sorority in a round-robin fashion, bracket style," Hansen said.

Junior Theta sister Maria Laura Reategui said that the event helped foster closer friendships within her sorority.

"You don't know all the people [you're playing with], but you're all thrown together and somehow you make really good friends," Reategui said.

Junior Alpha Phi sister Juliana Wittmann said her sorority's team also became closer friends through preparing for the tournament.

"We have a slightly smaller team than in the past, but it worked out well," Wittmann said. "Everyone showed up to practices and [had] greater energy. It's great to have everyone together today because in the Panhellenic community we don't see each other together that often."

Kiernan said that even though she was not physically playing on her team, she enjoyed the event because it gave her an opportunity to support her sisters on the field.

"I think the event really brings out a sorority's true personality and morals," Kiernan said. "There's nothing like pitting groups of sorority girls against each other for their true nature to come out. It all ends up being worth it in the end, even the 7 a.m. practices, because I've grown closer with my sisters."

Prof. Luzzi lectures on "My Two Italies"

By ANNE
HOLLMULLER
Staff Writer

On Oct. 13, the German and Romance Languages and Literatures department hosted a lecture entitled "My Two Italies," which featured Joseph Luzzi, a professor of Italian Studies at Bard College. Luzzi's lecture was based on his recently published memoir of the same title, which describes his experience as the son of Italian immigrants and a scholar of Italian Studies.

Luzzi, who is especially interested in Dante, has spent a great deal of time studying Italian culture and politics. A number of professors, graduate students and undergraduates gathered in Gilman to learn about Luzzi's books and his thoughts on Italy and Italian American identity.

Luzzi was inspired by the fall of former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi to write a work detailing how the issues of modern Italy were related to the nation's past. However, the book soon evolved into something very different. Having intended to use personal stories as illuminating diversions, Luzzi now found that his familial story could be intertwined with the history, politics and culture of the Italian nation.

Luzzi had long struggled to reconcile the Italy that he had devoted his academic career to, which comprised the Florentine intellectual world of the Renaissance, with his family's Italy, a land where they had lived a peasant life in Calabria. In "My Two Italies," he strove to connect these two conceptions of the nation, one of the artistic world of Dante and the other relating to impoverished life of his family in southern Italy.

Anita Dam, a senior undergraduate student, spoke about her reasons for attending this lecture.

"I'm the co-V.P. for Ciao JHU Italian Club, and my advisor, [professor Christopher Celenza] told me about the talk, which I later circulated to the Italian Club," Dam said. "I decided to attend because I was interested to hear about Joseph Luzzi's book after reading the description."

Dam has been a part of the Italian Club and has studied the Italian language at Hopkins, but emphasized that the club is open to people who do not have as much experience with the subject.

"Ciao JHU Italian Club does not require any of its members to know or learn Italian," Dam said. "Also, Joseph Luzzi's talk and book [were] in English."

During the lecture, Luzzi read a number of extracts from his book and commented on their

meaning and importance. One striking passage from the opening of his book recounted how, on one Easter Sunday, a favorite relative visited with a rabbit that Luzzi was ready to treasure as a pet until he found that the rabbit had become dinner. This story, Luzzi said, helped to illuminate his feelings, as a child, about being raised in a manner that was different from that of his friends and classmates.

Luzzi spoke at length about the issues facing Italian immigrants and the Italian-American identity. He found that there are two popular conceptions of Italy and of Italian Americans: that of Mafioso, corruption and gangsters as inspired by The Sopranos and The Godfather films; and that of beautiful, pastoral Italy as exemplified by novels like *Under the Tuscan Sun*. Luzzi sought to delve behind those myths and determine the reasons behind the lack of a strong Italian American literary canon and civic traditions. He sees these issues as a result of the issues of political and linguistic fragmentation in the Italian homeland that can be traced back for centuries.

Luzzi concluded the lecture with an extract detailing his father's struggles at the end of his life and then described what he felt were the two main themes of the book. His father had worked very hard after coming to America, and despite the effect this had on his physical health, his father had been proud of what he had been able to achieve. The first theme of the book, inspired by the hardworking father who gave up a happy life in Calabria, explained how parents can discount the present for the sake of their children's future happiness.

The second theme of Luzzi's book was the importance of the story of immigration to nearly every American family. Luzzi said that remembering the narrative of exile is a way of preserving the experiences of past generations, and he expressed his hope that he could help keep the stories of Calabria alive for his children.

Dam found this lecture to be both informative and relatable because of her personal experiences.

"I really enjoyed this book talk," Dam said. "Since Joseph Luzzi is from an immigrant Italian-American family, his background and book really resonated with me personally, since my parents were also immigrants to this country. I was able to draw parallels in Luzzi's childhood and my own, [like] understanding and preserving my family's culture while trying to assimilate with what it meant to be American."



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Joseph Luzzi discussed the concept of the Italian-American identity.

Errata:

On page A1 of the Sept. 18 issue of *The News-Letter*, a quote was misattributed to freshman Sara Chishti in the article "CNN President Zucker chats with students." The quote has been corrected on our website.

Additionally, on page A3 in the Oct. 9 issue of *The News-Letter*, an article titled "SJP hosts *My Name is Rachel Corrie*" inaccurately listed the city of Rafah as a city in Egypt. It is in fact in the Gaza Strip.

The News-Letter apologizes for these errors.

NEWS & FEATURES

Hoptoberfest comes back for second year

By TED TAK
For *The News-Letter*

Hopkins students celebrated the second annual Hoptoberfest, a series of events and activities on campus that spanned from Oct. 7-12. Hoptoberfest is sponsored by the Hopkins Parents Fund and directed by the Office of Student Life.

Hoptoberfest repeated some of the more popular events from last year, like free coffee on the Breezeway on Tuesday morning, which kicked off the festivities. Wednesday's class spirit activities, such as the pizza party at noon at the Glass Pavilion, Happy Hour and the AMR BBQ also returned. Thursday's Johnny's Orchard made a return to the agenda as well.

In response to the popularity of Battle of the Classes at last year's Hoptoberfest, participants this year were asked to each wear a t-shirt in their class's designated color to the pizza party.

This year also introduced new events. On Tuesday, a special presentation on student life at Hopkins, sponsored by Hopkins Retrospective and the Ferdinand Hamburger University Archives, gave students a chance to view old Hopkins photos, yearbooks and other memorabilia.

Following the autumnal theme of the week, a pumpkin patch was



MANYU SHARMA/STAFF
The fest included a zombie run.

organized on the Freshman Quad. A silent disco, among other events, as hosted at Levering Hall. Another popular event this year was Mocktoberfest at Nolan's, at which students participated in alcohol awareness events.

The HOP sponsored Music on the Beach, Friday Night Films and the Zombie Race, in conjunction with the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

In addition to the activities for students, the weekend of Hoptoberfest came with many performances by Hopkins groups. From Oct. 10-12, the Barnstormers Freshman One Acts drew people to Arrellano Theater.

"As producer, I could not have asked for a more talented group of actors and directors," Allison Comotto, vice president of Studio Productions, said.

On Oct. 11, the Hopkins Symphony Orchestra performed at Shriver Hall, and Hopkins a cappella groups performed in Mudd.

Students return to President's Day of Service

By SABRINA WANG
For *The News-Letter*

Nearly 1,300 students and faculty members participated in community service projects at the sixth annual President's Day of Service (PDOS), which took place Saturday at dozens of locations across Baltimore.

Before the volunteers were dispatched to their respective service sites, President Ronald J. Daniels addressed the volunteers in the Ralph S. O'Connor Recreation Center. Daniels, who started PDOS in 2009 to encourage University-wide community service, said this year's turnout was the largest yet.

This year's PDOS projects included cleaning up a river at Middle Park Branch, painting at the 29th Street Community Center, painting and gardening at Chesapeake's ReStore, interacting with Thomas Johnson Elementary and Middle School students and preparing food for the homeless at the Weinberg Housing and Resource Center. All outreach sites focused on maintenance, gardening, or interaction with the community. Tools and supplies for various activities were donated by the Baltimore Community ToolBank.

The projects, which were mostly student-led, also included many local student organizations including 901 Arts, Thread (formerly Incentive Mentoring Program), Habitat

for Humanity and Outdoor Pursuits.

Although volunteers doing outdoor service projects had to work in the rain, PDOS Logistics Chair Chase Alston wrote in an email to *The News-Letter* that she thought the day was well-attended.

"Considering the fact it rained (and no one likes to go out in the rain), I think it was pretty successful," Alston wrote.

Senior Ann Mendoza said she enjoys volunteering for PDOS because it gives her the opportunity to learn from others and make an impact on people's lives. This year, Mendoza served with Outdoor Pursuits. The group travelled to a river site near Homewood and cleaned litter and debris that caused environmental damage.

Mendoza said that she enjoys volunteering at PDOS because she finds it difficult to squeeze in community service into her busy schedule.

"The only regret I always have is not being able to come back again with my group," Mendoza said. "At the of the day, you usually have such an amazing time with all



ELIZABETH CHEN/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
President's Day of Service (PDOS) returned to Hopkins for the fourth year on Saturday.

these different organizations and everything they do. A lot of us just ask afterwards if we can help them out again. They try to give us their information, but unfortunately even our schedules are packed that we don't get to go back during the semester or next semester."

Mendoza said that she wants to see more major service events that get students involved in the community.

"I'm glad we have President's Day of Service, but I kind of wish we could do this a little bit more," Mendoza said. "A lot of groups don't have volunteers this massive who try to come back and help them each week, or every month. So it would be really helpful if some of us came by to show our support and show that we care for Baltimore."

Alston echoed Mendoza's sentiment. She wrote about how PDOS exposes students to local

issues that they might not know existed.

"I really believe community service is important, and I think PDOS is a great way for Hopkins students to get out of the 'Hopkins Bubble' and see parts of Baltimore they wouldn't normally be exposed to," she wrote.

Beyond Homewood, the PDOS Executive Board also helped arrange alumni community service events in Los Angeles, Seattle, New York and Orange County, Calif. in collaboration with the Office of Alumni Relations.

The PDOS Executive Board began planning the event, which was funded by the Johns Hopkins Parents Fund, in July. The board was comprised of undergraduate students, who met weekly.

The board's responsibilities included previewing all the sites beforehand for safety and making sure that all outreach had their respective tools.

Digital Culture Jamming



A free talk
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collaborative

Saturday
Oct 25

force
upsetting rape culture

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Glass Pavilion

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internet memes & public art
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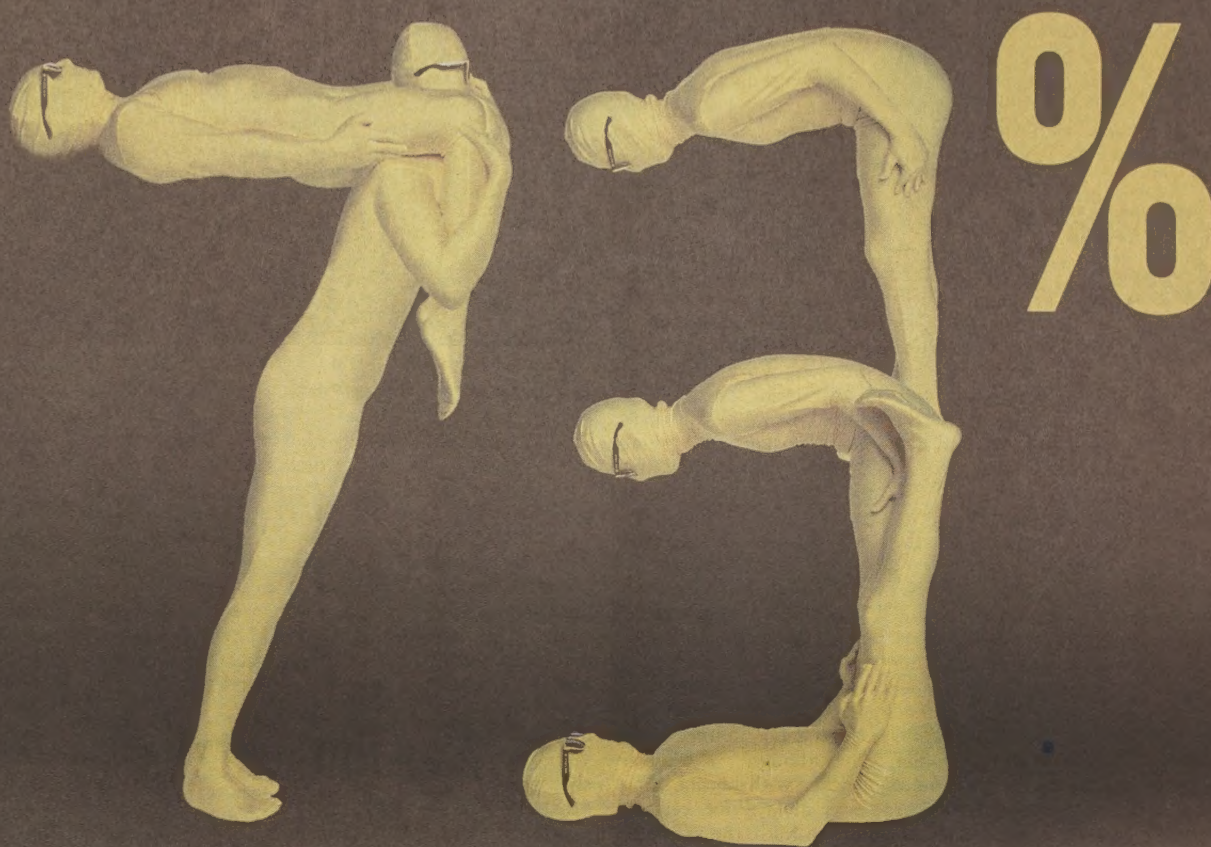
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HIP HOP

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A bouncy home for Fall Break

My youngest niece, Alejandra, recently turned 4 years old, and since I chose to go to college in a different state and my weekends are far from open, I was not able to attend the festivities. My sister first notified me of the plan to host Alejandra's birthday at Bounce U, a big bouncy spot in the Bronx, a good 2 months ago in the worst way possible... a text.

Sure, we all text nowadays since talking to people on the phone seems to have grown out of style, but it wasn't just the fact that it was a text invitation. It was the fact that it was a generic text invitation, received by any and all of her other friends. The worst part is that she knew I wouldn't be able to make it.

So basically, since August, I have been waiting for the inevitable onslaught of Alex's birthday pictures on Facebook. During this waiting period, I have managed to experience three existential crises, all to do with the age-old dilemma of what I will do when I graduate and if what I foresaw myself doing as a freshman still holds true.

It doesn't, but that's not the point. The point is that I find myself about to be a newly christened 21-year-old who will

have the freedom to buy alcohol, go to clubs and anything else that was exciting when I wasn't 21, but I can't make it to Alex's fun party at a bouncy house. I stress that it was a bouncy house. It wouldn't have been my first time there since her older brother Cirillo had his birthday there during the summer, but it just sucks to not be there for hers.

Then on top of it all, they all are growing up so quickly! They are already starting to read, speak in coherent sentences and correct me when it comes to things they know everything about (also known as the Transformers, Teenage Ninja Turtles and Frozen). Like they know more about Frozen than I do. Okay.

Speaking of Frozen, in the midst of all of the birthday photos, you can see my Alex dressed up in all of her Elsa regalia. Ever since Frozen came out, Alex and I have been fanatics. Prior to Elsa, she didn't have a favorite Disney Princess, although she would claim Rapunzel sporadically.

So seeing the pictures of her in costume, I imagined the conversation we would have been sure to have about how she was Elsa now for sure and I would have to go find some other princess to be.

As I browsed through her birthday pictures I noticed that in all the photos of her she had developed a new favorite pose, a slanted peace sign

against her cheek, which was most likely learned from her pre-teen older sister. As if the pictures weren't enough reason to miss my family and wish I was back home already, her aunt from her father's side posted some videos of her belting out the Frozen soundtrack.

This little girl is a certified performer — she had the whole room cap-

tivated with her passion for the lyrics, and there were several other people documenting her performance on their cell phones. Obviously, having spent the whole summer chilling with her — even going to Disney World with her! — wasn't enough to wait for Thanksgiving to see the family.

After liking every picture that my mom and sister posted of the party and binge-watching her performance a few times over, I figured I would call them let them know I missed them and blah blah blah. Naturally, none of them (sister, brother, dad and mother) were available.

My parents and brother were too busy checking out what they later referred to as a wack scary movie, *Anabel*. And, of course, my sister always has something wrong with her iPhone, so her not answering wasn't too surprising.

It wasn't until the next day when I could talk to my mom that she told me some family asked for me. However, I was more concerned about whether Alex and Cirillo specifically had asked about me because then I knew it would be real. Turns out they were the first ones to ask. After I got off the phone, I booked my trip back home for fall break.

The worst part is that she knew I wouldn't be able to make it.

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Crystal Castles' break-up: my honest eulogy

As of Oct. 8, the punk meets synthpop duo Crystal

Castles is no more. Vocalist Alice Glass went to social media to declare the end of the band for both professional and personal reasons, stating she hoped people would embrace her material as a solo artist like they did with Crystal Castles. This comes two years after the release of their third album, *(III)*, and definitely puts any plans for a fourth album into a state of purgatory.

This is going to anger a lot of Crystal Castles fans, but here goes nothing. Honestly, I was never really a fan of this group. But why write something like this for a group that broke up when you don't really even like them? Well, Crystal Castles first emerged on the scene at a time when I was starting to branch out in terms of the music I listened to. Although the duo from Toronto had been around since 2003, they officially broke through in terms of popularity in 2008 with the release of their self-titled debut album.

Although it never clicked with me, one thing was always for certain: Ethan Kath, the producer of the duo, was a talented individual. The production for every Crystal Castles track, despite all the chaos and grime at times, was always inherently catchy, and was a successful attempt at combining synthpop with modern elements of punk, techno and industrial music.

Considering these influences, it takes a rather talented producer to create "pop" music out of this without always going entirely left-field — not that there is nothing wrong with that either. However, this duo always seemed to be a buzz band, always riding on the hype from their debut album in 2008. Now I know those words will stick like venom, but there's a point to this and it has a lot to do with the fact that what Alice Glass actually contributed musically to the group.

In studio, her voice was not amazing, but with studio work, it fit the songs.



COURTESY OF ANDRE T. VIA FLICKR

Glass used drug-filled performances rather than musical talent to inspire energy from the crowd.

That doesn't mean having a technically trained vocalist was the answer, but one sort of wonders what thought processes went into the vocals, especially considering their live performances.

In such a setting, one either couldn't hear her voice because they mixed it out, or if you did, she was shrieking into the microphone the entire time (from personal experience, it doesn't sound nice at all). In either case, she would flop around the stage, usually on a cocktail of drugs (she was known for sometimes bringing entire handles of alcohol with her on stage), as Ethan and the drummer played through the backing tracks, identical to the studio version but with the bass boosted and overpowering all the mid-ranged sounds (with the synths and drum machines probably all pre-recorded).

Despite whatever messages they attempted to convey in studio, their live performances seem to just give this "let's get wasted and go crazy 'cause we're angry about something" mentality. Now, while this can be entertaining for a little while, if you consider the

plethora of other guy-girl duos that have come onto the scene since Crystal Castles debuted (Sylvan Esso, Purity Ring, Phantogram, Cults, Blue Hawaii, etc.) and how they do their own material both live and in studio, Crystal Castles just becomes gimmicky and tiresome very quickly.

Additionally, with the release of their second and

third albums, the overall feel of the tracks just seemed to be a stagnation of their punk ethos, as opposed to some change or maturation. Despite their intentions, they unfortunately just fit a niche. So, considering all of that, what is there to expect with

Alice Glass's solo project? What will happen with Crystal Castles and Ethan? Despite her "lyricism," Ethan Kath practically wrote all of the music, so Alice's "solo" project will probably require the assistance of another person.

But, if one is seriously looking to someone like Alice Glass to make statements and comments about serious political and social issues, then one really needs to re-evaluate such a decision. Meanwhile, it'll be interesting to see what Crystal Castles/Ethan Kath does without Alice now. If you haven't seen his solo DJ sets, they are rather good and don't require a drugged fool making a scene of themselves in order to provide a remotely entertaining live experience.

Alex Hurowitz Music Rx

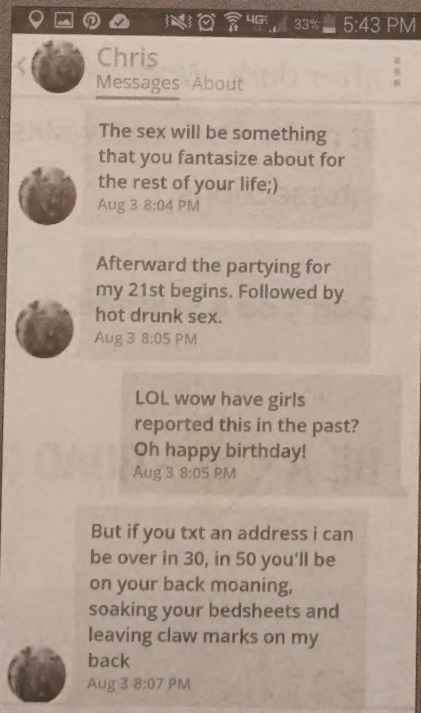
Poetry Corner

~ A brief verse ~

The rain is pouring from the sky.
It makes me very sad.
But when the sun comes out to stay,
I'll be extremely glad.

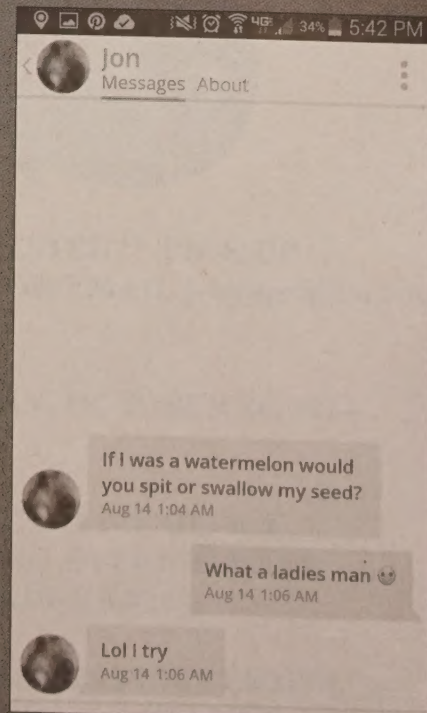
— Poet-in-Chief

It's Going Down: This Week on Tinder



Send screenshots of your funniest, most awkward Tinder conversations to hiphop@jhunewsletter.com each week and they may just make it into the next edition of *The News-Letter*!

Stay tuned for more awkward Tinder conversations...



HIP HOP

BUT ALSO observations, lists, thoughts, feelings, missed connections, haikus, confessions, furtive glances and, of course, sex.

My favorite Halloween movies, resurrected

Growing up, I watched a lot of Halloween movies. I would usually watch whatever Disney Channel Original Movie was premiering that year, but my favorites were always the cartoons. There was a period of time when Cartoon Network would play the same *Scooby-Doo* episodes in October year after year, and I always tuned in.

I remember that there were a few years when I got a little older and I stopped watching them. But after that, back in high school when all I wanted was to be a kid again, I either didn't have time to watch them or I couldn't find the same episodes on TV. But with the Internet, we can now watch anything at any time, and we should take a moment to praise the Great Pumpkin for that.

If I had to pick four short films to watch to get back into the spirit of being a kid who can't wait for Halloween, they would be the following:

Number one is *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (1949), a short Disney film. I had tapes of a lot of animated classics that Disney made. My favorites were *Sleepy Hollow*, *Paul Bunyan*, and *The Wind in the Willows*. This is my favorite adaptation of Washington Irving's classic story about Ichabod Crane, the schoolmaster of a small town. Ichabod has to ride through the woods by himself, terrified of a headless horseman who may be Brom



COURTESY OF WINTERSOUL1 VIA FLICKR
First premiered in 1966, *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown* is as classic as Halloween movies get.

Bones or who may just be his imagination. Clearly, people are still fascinated with this story, as there is a whole TV show called *Sleepy Hollow* devoted to Ichabod and the people of the old Hudson Valley Dutch town.

My second option is *Hocus Pocus*. I know that this isn't a short movie, but I couldn't not add this to the list. I won't go into much detail because I know a lot of people write articles around this time of year about how great this movie is. But it really is. It's the best. A boy and his friend and his sister have to stop three witches who come back to life and try to bewitch Salem. In sum-

mary, Bette Midler sings and is perfect and that is all you need to know.

Third is *Scooby-Doo and the Ghoul School*. There are many *Scooby* episodes to choose from, but this is my favorite. *Shaggy* and *Scooby* get jobs at a girls' school, and when they go there, they realize that the girls are ghouls. Revolta and her minion, the Grim Creeper, plan to enslave the girl ghouls and make them evil forever. It's a really cute movie and has a ton of monster puns.

My last pick is *It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown*. I have quite a soft spot for anything Charlie Brown. Out of all of the franchises of children's

movies and stories, the *Peanuts* gang was by far my favorite. This movie speaks to my soul. The fact that so many of Charlie Brown's friends want to be ghosts and the fact that they go trick-or-treating together and Charlie got rocks was the funniest thing to me as a kid. I can't look at a rock and not think, "I got a rock." Somehow, I identified so much with such a somber kid. But the most endearing part of the movie is that Linus spends the entire night waiting for the "Great Pumpkin" while all of his friends are trick-or-treating.

Honorable mention: All of the "Treehouse of Horror" episodes of *The Simpsons*, particularly the one where the Simpsons reenact Macbeth.

I know we are all busy, especially at this time of year. All I am saying is that I know what I'm doing with my fall break.

Elizabeth Sherwood
My Favorite Things

Lillian Kairis
Hopkins in Prose and Pictures

How to live life as a chronic overanalyzer

We're all getting too smart... "Our brains are getting bigger and bigger, and the world dries up and dies when there's too much thought and not enough heart."

It was a blustery Sunday morning when I read these lines out of Aimee Bender's *The Rememberer*. They were the last spoken words on the last human day of one of the characters. The character then proceeded to slowly and methodically transform, in a bizarre reverse evolution, from a man into an ape into a single-celled organism and eventually, into nothing at all.

All the while, his girlfriend mourned the loss of the man who no longer knew her like he used to. It goes without saying that it was the strangest break-up tale I've ever read. But I adored it. I considered this devolution as the pinnacle of all metaphors. "Man," I'd thought, "this is deep." Aren't we all just too much thought and not enough heart? I mean, especially here.

Sunday afternoons are a prime instance of this. You go on Yik Yak at 1 p.m., and it's a bevy of posts about how deserted and melancholic the quads are; you walk those aforementioned quads, and yep, there's the rolling tumbleweeds. And there's B level of the library, packed to the brim with focused faces and plugged-in headphones. Come on, guys, where's the heart?

Though that's not entirely what Aimee Bender's introspective character was referring to, I think. This is a guy who interrupted sex with his girlfriend to sit down on the floor and have an hour-long conversation about poetry. I'm not kidding.

And you might immediately be thinking, this guy has some serious psychological issues, but I think he's more like us than we realize, or at least, he's more like me.

These days I can barely do anything without taking a second to ponder the intense complexities of its manifestation. This weekend marked my first Hopkins theater performance, the *Freshman One Acts*, and I can tell you, I psyched myself out over these like I had an Olympic Medal in "Overthinking and Dwelling in Useless Anxiety." It's no achievement. You know those moments before you make a serious decision or a public display of some sort, when you mentally sift through every possible disastrous scenario that could unfold? Me too. I have mentally viewed, time and time again, the terrible scene that is an audience of blank, humorless stares; I have also seen the same audience, pointing and cackling because of some outrageous mistake, like me ripping my dress or tripping in my ridiculous heels.

Regardless of the unreality, these scenes were on loop in my mind like a prepaid infomercial. Darnit, Mr. Shouting Salesman, I seriously don't want this giant cupcake mold, give it up already. But — as I'm sure you're aware — the brain does not simply give up.

Oh, no. The brain does not slow down for anybody. Instead, it goes on high alert, strumming through paranoid delusions and pre-decision pro/con lists. Maybe I'm an exception, as a self-proclaimed indecisive mess, but my thoughts run at a mile a minute. It's more than just pre-theater nerves, which made me run over my lines so many times that I started integrating them naturally into casual conversations ("I need a big couch because I'm a BIG PERSONALITY!"). It also comes through in my highly debated internal monologue of what drink I should order at Brody cafe to maximize both pleasure and health (oh, the struggle), and even more than that, in social situations.

I'm going to make a broad assumption here and say that, despite the obvious variations in everyone's social intelligence, we all know, to some level, this feeling: You want to approach somebody listening to the sort of music you like, or you want to knock on the door of someone on your floor, but you can't. Instead of taking action, you take thoughts, and the anxious, terrible, will-they-won't-they blurs your intentions into a self-conscious mush. Too much thought and not enough heart.

Oh no. The brain does not slow down for anybody.

So yeah, I think Aimee Bender has a point. Maybe people are just overanalyzing. Maybe ideas and dwellings are preventing us from living in the moment, experiencing life as we please. But then I consider this dude, the guy who swapped sex for poetry, the pessimist who devolved from a man to a cell to a bunch of lifeless air, and I wonder whether lacking consciousness is really the answer. I mean, as a single cell, I doubt I would be able to act.

I doubt I would have the capacity to comprehend a script, let alone experiment with my lines on stage. I doubt I could approach anybody, as I'd lack the brain cells required to form a coherent sentence. And I seriously, seriously doubt I could have a nice, hour-long conversation about poetry. Although heart is lovely, and heart pushes me to act spontaneously when my thoughts get tongue-tied, I'm a sucker for a deep conversation. So even if they can be a bit much, even if they roll around in my mind like a pinball, I wouldn't trade my thoughts for anything (especially not devolution).

Ben Affleck vs. Bill Maher: a fight of flaws

The media was abuzz this week as clips of Bill Maher, host of *Real Time with Bill Maher*, and actor/director Ben Affleck, from *Argo* among other films, participating in a heated debate over "Islamaphobia" circulated the web. The argument centered on the pertinent topic of how we, as Westerners, shape our perceptions of Islam and Islamic society.

Frankly, the debate was a distraction: two self-proclaimed liberals arguing on separate planes. The dialogue between the celebrities was empty rhetoric; they both came off as ill-informed while poorly defending their positions. The argument begins when Maher points out that he does not have an issue with the Islamic people, but rather, his problem lies with the values that are inherent to the religion. Maher, deriving his validation from "expert" Sam Harris, author of *Waking Up*, berates the Islamic stance on prejudice toward women, homosexuals and non-believers as both depraved and vindictive.

He argues that there is an innate malevolence to the doctrine, so the religion, and by extension, subscribers to the religion, deserves to be discriminated against. Of course, he says this all with his usual supercilious, cocksure grin plastered across his face.

This infuriates Ben Affleck who, as a famous

actor, has a duty to perpetual sanctimony. Affleck looks like he has just seen the box office numbers for *Gigli*, and he comes out swinging. He starts by questioning the authority of Sam Harris, asking him how he has the nerve to go speaking on Islamic doctrine of which he knows nothing about! Sam Harris swiftly diffuses this claim by assuring the crowd of his credentials.

Affleck then proceeds to reprimand Maher for his inciting comments. He calls Maher a "racist Islamaphobe" and equates his remark with calling someone a "shifty Jew" (Yes, Maher is Jewish). Affleck has the support of two dowdy politicians who make a couple of hollow points, but basically his argument primarily consists of attacking Maher as a racist. He points to all of the peaceful Islamic people who are contributing great things to the world (Chobani!).

The debate continues like this for a while, with the two trading barks and contradicting each other with dubitable statistics. Maher condescends to Affleck and Affleck lashes out at Maher, however, no actual progress is made. While Maher concedes that not all Islamists are radical jihadists, a term that is thrown around far too often, he maintains that

the religion is highly problematic and does not deserve the sympathy that it is being treated with. He asserts that their hostile standards counter our Western, liberal values and that they can not be tolerated.

Conversely, Affleck basically holds the noble claim that no one person should be discriminated against; however, his lack of knowledge surrounding Islam renders his entire argument weightless. The truth is nuanced. Every politician and journalist wants to espouse his or her personal view on how to effectively handle the Islamic world but hardly anyone has an intricate understanding of Islam.

Firstly, both Maher and Affleck referred to Islamists who enforce their position through the use of violence as "jihadists." The Islamic State, Hamas, Hezbollah, Boko Haram, etc. are all militant Islamic groups that use force in order to implement their will.

Regimes such as Mubarak in Egypt or Ben Ali in Tunisia are political Islamist systems that served as single party units that mobilized the interests of the autocrat. They too used force, but this is more of a human rights issue than an Islamic issue, though it is all related.

If you watch what

has happened over the past four years since the Arab Spring, you'll see that most of the people living in these countries are not radical; they are just trying to live and are in constant fear of the secret police.

The flaw with the debate between Maher and Affleck is that they oversimplify the issue. It is foolish to claim, as Maher does, that the Islamic religious doctrines are problematic (what religious doctrine is not?). There are stipulations that contradict our liberal values intrinsic to every religion; however, the common law reigns supreme. Also there are those who observe Sharia law by utilizing "Itjihad," which translates to applying human logic. It is not a religious thing as much as it is a human thing.

Globalization is still a relatively young and highly flammable concept. People are resistant to change and it is incredibly arrogant to think that we, as Westerners, can fix their society through forcing our values on the Islamic world. Rather one must work within the society to gain an acute understanding. There is no easy solution, and that is why there is so much confusion clouding the surrounding dialogue. Morally, though, the situation is fascinating. What is worse: coercing a people to adopt your values or standing and watching while they violate your entire ethical framework?

Louis Rosin
Movies, Music and More

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Editorials

Domestic abuse stigmas should be challenged

Last Thursday, Students Educating and Empowering for Diversity (SEED) organized a presentation on the portrayal of domestic violence in the media and its direct effects on public opinion. Following a candid video screening, coordinators moderated an interactive discussion meant to elucidate the extent to which traditional gender roles bias the way that we perceive domestic violence. Inspired by the recent uproar in the news surrounding the altercation between ex-Raven Ray Rice and his then-fiancée Janay Palmer, the event illustrated the adverse influence that news broadcasts and publications often have on their mass audiences by propagating unjustified criticism and misinterpretation of issues involving domestic abuse.

The Editorial Board commends SEED for proactively addressing such pervasive popular misconceptions, first that domestic abuse only applies to female victims of male maltreatment and also that the media provides a comprehensive depiction of such situations. Domestic violence can only be countered when people realize that males, despite stereotypical characteristics of dominance and strength, can and do suffer from abuse as well. In fact, approximately 40 percent of domestic violence victims are men. By starting a conversation that challenges cultural norms, SEED is generating much-needed dialogue

in the Hopkins community, and furthering the campus-wide campaign against sexual assault.

The Editorial Board condemns the social stigmas currently associated with male victims of assault and also the seemingly widespread acceptance of female aggression against men in society. News outlets must convey the multifaceted nature of domestic violence. Amidst an inextricable web of unique motives, pressures and circumstances, domestic abuse assumes various forms — physical, verbal, emotional, psychological, financial and sexual — and can affect every type of relationship, from parental to romantic. The Editorial Board praises the admirable efforts of SEED and all of the participants who took the initiative to question common perceptions of domestic violence, because extensive ignorance and indifference to this issue endangers the well-being of many.

The Editorial Board hopes that those who attended the event will reflect upon the complexities involved in a case of domestic abuse, especially when learning of related controversies through media outlets, and spread this information to others. We can only achieve tangible progress in the fight against domestic violence if people truly understand its scope. The Editorial Board endorses SEED's approach to raising awareness for an issue that affects millions around the world.



LEON SANTHAKUMAR/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be e-mailed to chiefs@jhnewsletter.com for inclusion in a Thursday issue. All letters received become property of The News-Letter. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include contact information and cannot be anonymous. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

New Flightplan site is great student resource

This week, the Student Government Association (SGA) launched a new blog called Flightplan, and the Editorial Board could not be more pleased with the site. The cleverly named web page is like the Rosetta Stone for Baltimore happenings and public transportation options relevant to Hopkins students. Too many times we've heard our peers complain that they would make more of an effort to get off campus if only the public transportation system didn't seem so convoluted and confusing. Now, thanks to Flightplan, this is no longer an excuse. Hopefully those students who were so intimidated by the seeming complexity of Baltimore's public transportation system will see the links to Flightplan on Facebook, read the blog and be off to explore Charm City this weekend.

Baltimore is one of the most unique cities in the United States — it really does have a character of its own. The Editorial Board believes it is an outright shame that most students rarely leave Charles Village. There are so many festivals and events that fly under the Hopkins radar — some of which are even in range of the Blue Jay shuttle. Hampden hosts the famous Hun Fest, (a festival where local men from all walks of life don drag costumes), as

well as the creatively named Hampdenfest. Flightplan will now be able to offer students more information about these events and resources to help students get to Hampden and beyond. And although Hampden is an especially effervescent neighborhood, there are many other events and festivals all over Baltimore that us Blue Jays should be flocking to, with the help of Flightplan. The Editorial Board believes that efforts like this site will allow students to provide a more complete understanding of these sorts of festivals and events and will ultimately a more fulfilling college experience.

The Editorial Board commends the SGA for working so hard to get more students off campus to experience this amazing city. Coming on the heels of the SGA's push to extend the routes of the Blue Jay Shuttle, Flightplan is an important step in this mission. Even if it's only for four years, we are all living in Baltimore, not exclusively on the Homewood Campus, and we should all use Flightplan to start acting like it. We can only imagine the wisdom students would possess if they combined this invaluable resource with another equally important one: the "Your Weekend" section of The News-Letter.

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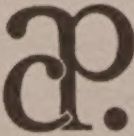
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OPINIONS

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Our brains are maladapted to the modern world we live in

By WILL MARCUS

Our incomprehensibly complex and beautiful brains are the triumph of millions of years of cutthroat natural selection, yet they are horrifically maladapted to the world we live in. For all the millions of years it took to develop us, we developed civilization in a couple thousand. Our ancestors even just 1,000 years ago — let alone hunter-gatherers from 10,000 BC — could never imagine our way of life. We live like Gods. You want unlimited potable water? Turn on the faucet. You want a hot steak dinner? Take it out of the freezer and put it into the microwave. You want an endless torrent of unimaginably engrossing entertainment? Turn on your TV or flip your laptop screen up. Most of us regularly exploit the fact that the development of modern society has surpassed our own biological development by a practically infinite margin. We bombard our ancient, chemical reward centers from the paleolithic era with preposterous amounts of supernormal stimuli for pure pleasure, which unfortunately has some serious consequences.

To understand these consequences, first we must learn about the principle of overstimulation. Overstimulation is any behavior or perception that causes larger than normal amounts of a chemical reward to fill our brains' pleasure centers; the most common of these rewards is dopamine. Civilization allows many of us to flood our brains' pleasure centers with dopamine and other chemicals many times a day through supernormal stimuli like junk food, pornography, video games, the Internet and possibly even mind-altering substances. Naturally, the pleasure we get from these dopamine rushes cannot compare to any stimuli that can be found in nature. Humans are not the only life on earth that can suffer the ill effects of supernormal stimuli, but we are the only animals that are in a position to experience it regularly.

Many studies have found that animal behavior always favors supernormal stimulation and, even if that behavior is actually incredibly destructive and unproductive. Mother birds have been found to feed blatant wooden decoys with disproportionately huge mouths while their own living, breathing young starve. The bird's pleasure centers fill with dopamine at the sight of such large, healthy-looking young that they pay no heed to the fact that they are feeding inanimate objects. Moreover, male fish have been found to mate exclusively with two-dimensional cardboard cutouts with exaggerated colors instead of actual fertile females in experiments. The same evolutionary reward center that informs the behavior necessary for survival and successful natural selection is a total liability when any species faces any kind of supernormal stimuli.

Pornography and junk food are very similar forms of supernormal stimuli. They are complete exaggerations of the food and sex that we're evolutionarily prepared to encounter in nature, and this provokes a similarly exaggerated response in our pleasure centers. To make matters worse, they also both have enormously powerful industries behind them that are in perpetual competition with each other to produce ever more stimulating products. Food scientists meticulously tinker with foods like Doritos to attain the golden ratio of salt, fat and carbohydrates that maximizes the average person's "bliss point." In other words, these corporations give scientists a blank check to create food that causes the largest dopamine release possible, regardless of nutritional value. The end result is a highly addictive snack that probably couldn't be worse for you. What's worse is that we all accept that modern food should be addictive. Lay's Chips still uses

"betcha can't eat just one" as their official slogan, showing that one of the largest firms in the junk food industry not only openly acknowledges how addictive their food is, but somehow capitalizes on it as a primary selling point. They wouldn't do this if the public opinion didn't deem "addictiveness" a positive quality in food. Obesity and type II diabetes are climbing at alarming rates in many parts of world, no doubt due in part to the widespread acceptance these supernormal foods that deteriorate our endocrine systems in exchange for just a little bit of pleasure.

It's pretty humbling to imagine that for all the vast intelligence of the human psyche, it is still subject to the same ill-effects of overstimulation as a fish's pea-sized brain. In September 2013, Cambridge University neuropsychiatrist Dr. Valeria Voon took brain scans of men who described themselves as addicted to pornography and found that their brains' reward centers displayed similar changes to those of heroin addicts. So what exactly does one of these damaged brains look like? For the heroin addict, the damage manifests itself as a tolerance to the drug: the more blown out the dopamine receptors are, the more heroin they must shoot to attain the same level of bliss. The porn addict's damaged brain instead requires more novelty and more extreme scenes. As the search for novelty continues unchecked, there will come a point where even young men in their

twenties begin to suffer from erectile dysfunction in real life sexual situations. Carlo Foresta, head of the Italian Society of Andrology and Sexual Medicine, confirmed this when he said that 70 percent of the young men under 30 years old seeking clinical help for erectile dysfunction in Italy self-reported frequent use of Internet porn. As intense as the symptoms of porn addiction can get, there is a way to reverse all the damage: quit cold turkey.

All over the world, young men and women are opting out of using Internet porn. A certain Chinese forum dedicated to quitting pornography boasts 500,000 members as of this June. The general rule of thumb is that ten times as many people that are subscribed actually read message boards, so that Chinese forum likely commands a 5,000,000 person readership. These types of forums for struggling porn addicts or simply those who wish to opt out are emerging in an ever-increasing number of countries as the world wakes up to all the disastrous consequences of porn addiction that have been thriving under the radar for years.

Almost all aspects of our modern lives that wouldn't be included under the "Paleolithic" lifestyle are inherently bad for us. Studies have shown that even artificial lights interfere with melatonin production and alter our circadian rhythms. Our sedentary lifestyles present some grave health complications for bodies sculpted by millions of years of evolution to be able to

handle insane amounts of physical exertion. For most of human history, sitting in a chair for nine hours a day and surviving would have been mutually exclusive concepts. We just haven't been built to do it. We are completely out of our element in this world of sensory excess. And it's not looking like we'll ever adapt to it while modern medicine and societal norms effectively prevent the barbaric natural selection process from occurring. So because we will not adapt to these new conditions, the only thing we can do is adapt our individual lifestyles.

I suggest that we should all let out our inner Homo erectus as much as possible. In an ideal world this means coming downstairs and spending time talking with your housemates or roommates instead of watching Netflix in your room. This means eating more nutrient-rich food that hasn't been designed in a lab. This means cutting Internet porn out of your life. This means reading more books in print. This means taking on that huge project. This means getting sweaty on a regular basis. This means living life in the manner that millions of years of natural selection designed you to. You just might find that if you're cognizant of the needs and health of your inner paleolithic cave-dwelling hominid, he or she will fight tooth and nail to get you ahead in life.

Will Marcus is a junior Economics and International Studies major from Austin, Texas. He is the Opinions Editor.

All should have the right to die with dignity

By ALEX YAHANDA

In most instances, the word suicide is an unpleasant one. There is something about suicide that strikes directly at people's basest urges. The act of taking one's own life is so counterintuitive to most of us — so powerful is our survival instinct — that suicide almost inherently brings with it the idea that there must have been some way to convince the victims not to go through with it. Help on that front is certainly possible. Mental health services, grief counseling and other preventative measures can all aid those who are suicidal. Yet there is another face to suicide, one that does not occur to most people. In certain places in the U.S., terminally ill, mentally-lucid patients may petition a doctor to help them facilitate their own deaths if they have within a certain time left to live. Here, the goal is not just the patient ending his life; it is to prevent suffering that may accompany a death that is rapidly encroaching.

Such is the case with Brittany Maynard, a 29-year-old woman who was diagnosed with a terminal form of brain cancer. Her doctors informed her this past April, after treatment failed to keep her condition from becoming more severe, that she had fewer than six months to live. Maynard is now looking to shorten her timeframe by bringing about her own death as soon as Nov. 1, having it peacefully occur on her own terms as she ingests a lethal dose of medication that she was legally prescribed.

Maynard has quickly risen to become a central figure in the debate regarding physician-assisted suicide (PAS) and has made a point to use her remaining time to speak out against the prohibition of PAS in 45 of the 50 states — and laudably so. As of now, only Oregon, Washington, New Mexico, Montana, and Vermont permit PAS. For the most part, the pro-PAS movement has seen few victories since Oregon passed the first law legalizing PAS in 1997. Maynard brings no new arguments or logic to the PAS discussion. However, she does bring a relatively singular experience to

the national stage. There have been 752 PAS deaths in Oregon since 1997, yet less than one percent of them were patients of Maynard's age. Maynard, then, could be instrumental in helping public opinion change regarding PAS.

In many ways, PAS is a poor choice of nomenclature. To the uninformed, the phrase may sound like doctors are helping suicidal patients to end their lives rather than getting those patients the help they need. In actuality, the true nature of PAS is very far removed from that idea. PAS is suicide insofar as a patient will ultimately be taking his own life. That does not mean, though, that the patient is suicidal, or even mentally troubled in any way, which is why laws surrounding PAS prefer to focus on terms like the "right to die" or "death with dignity." Death is a foreseeable certainty for patients like Maynard who seek the provisions guaranteed by PAS laws. Their illnesses will kill them before long, and any further medical interventions will likely cause them only more suffering. When medical treatments have failed to curb a terminal prognosis, should a person not be granted the final say over how his or her life ends?

Indeed, patients looking for death with dignity are seeking control; they are not looking forward to death itself. Maynard makes the key distinction in an essay she wrote defending her choices: "I do not want to die. But I am dying." And here is where she can have the largest impact in the discussion over PAS. Maynard, because of her age and apparent vibrancy (the effects of her cancer have not rendered her incapacitated yet), will hopefully resonate with younger people, those who previously may have had little reason to think about how they wanted to end their lives. She could help make the distinction between a tragic suicide and death from PAS less muddled. Not only may further elucidating PAS lead to fewer stigmas surrounding it going forward, but younger people may become informed about rights to death that they did not know were worth fighting for.

A larger discussion regarding PAS is especially needed among younger demographics given advancements in medical technology and our ever-aging population. An increasing number of patients these days are dying from chronic conditions. Studies have shown that upwards of 25 percent of Medicare spending is now spent on five percent of the relevant population, most commonly patients in their final year of life. Moreover, this final year of life is often comprised of frequent re-hospitalizations. Patients, even if they formerly expressed the desire to die at home alongside loved ones, more often than not die in hospitals. Looking forward, younger people should ask themselves: If you were put in a situation similar to Maynard's, or a similar situation at any age, what would you want? Obviously preferences will differ, and no person with an eligible terminal condition should be paternalistically steered towards ending his life via PAS. But if enough people end up empathizing with Maynard's decision, then there could be significant progress toward more widespread PAS legalization in the future. Maynard, after all, moved from California to Oregon to qualify for her lethal medication. Not all terminal patients will have that liberty, despite being worthy of the same opportunities.

In the end, Brittany Maynard's case involves one central tragedy: that such a young woman developed terminal brain cancer. That she will be dying soon only underscores the idea that suicide should not always be considered a poor way of coping with a situation. We would prefer that Maynard were not even faced with a decision of how to die. Her death will not be a moment of joy, Maynard will be dead regardless and deserves complete autonomy over her life to the bitter end. The alternative — remaining heavily medicated and hooked up to machines throughout an undignified decline — seems unquestionably worse.

Alex Yahanda is pursuing is Master's in Biotechnology. He is from Atlanta.

Reading for pleasure is undervalued in today's society

By AISHWARYA RAJE

I would like to avoid sounding like a disgruntled Neo-Luddite, but we really do need to start putting our phones away more often. These 2 x 4 inch screens more effectively capture our attention than practically anything else in our surroundings, which is a bit of a problem. Now I am in no position to preach about this, since I too spend far too much time scrolling through Facebook and Instagram when I should definitely be doing something much more productive with my time. Wouldn't it be nice, though, if we could just find a better endeavor that lets us spend a study break within a different kind of alternate reality? This is why I think it's time that this generation revisits a lost art: reading books. While it may seem quite difficult to find time for leisurely reading with our oppressive workloads, I believe that we should all be able to make time by cutting down on our many daily visits to social media sites.

I know there are people who do not enjoy reading as much as I do, but I would still like to hope that everyone is able to find it at least a little pleasurable. Unfortunately our high school education systems have done us a serious disservice by squeezing the life out of our assigned books with endless discussions, tests and overdrawn analyses. Based on some of my own grim experiences from my high school English classes, I can say that the purpose of reading is not to invoke abstract symbolism from each word to the point where the reader completely loses interest. The real joy of reading comes from when written words have the ability to make us feel something, when we can interpret someone else's expressions and make them our own. When was the last time you opened a book and felt the sense of thrill and excitement that only the beginning of an epic journey can invoke? When was the last time you finished a book and felt the sweet sadness of ending your sojourn in a strange world filled with the characters you'd truly come to love? We obviously cannot experience this with every book we read, which is why it is important to go beyond the scope of our high school reading lists and explore something new. We have all been assigned to read *The Great Gatsby*, *Lord of the Flies* and *1984* at some point, and while some of us may have enjoyed them in a classroom setting, it's time to read something simply because we want to read it. Once we find a book that we like, we don't want to put it down because life won't be the same until we read the next page.

I just want myself and people my age in general to experience this joy more often. I take a look around Levering at lunchtime, and I see people holding their sandwiches in one hand and their phones in the other. So much of our daily life is centered around the screens that we must have forgotten what it's like to feel the pages. Why not hold a book instead of a phone? Why not abandon scanning through the lives of others and immerse yourself in a world of your own? That's what reading a book can accomplish, and it's something that we all need to do more.

Aishwarya Rajee is a junior International Studies major from Princeton, N.J.

PHOTO ESSAY

HOPTOBERFEST

By: Manyu Sharma, Photography Staff



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YOUR WEEKEND OCT. 16-19

Sometimes, you need to sloth

By **RACHEL SHAVEL**
Your Weekend Columnist

There comes a time in every girl's life when she needs to put her hair in a ponytail, throw on her feistiest pair of leggings and... do nothing, which is exactly how I spent my weekend. Not to fear, though. The weekend proved to be a much-needed outlet for my inner sloth and was (yes, I know it sounds crazy) even a lot of fun.

"How could that possibly be fun?" you ask, chuckling with incredulity. Well, it's funny that you should bring that up. I have for you here the one-and-only, clinically proven and critically acclaimed recipe for the perfect night in. Please note: prerequisites for achieving the perfect night include post-midterm exhaustion, exceptionally icky weather, and a passion for wool socks.

Ingredients:

- One very fuzzy blanket for cuddling, snoozing and drooling.
- One Netflix account. Find somebody's password and hang onto it for dear life.
- Three or four pals, all of whom hopefully look

as gross and run down as you.

- 900 bags of Sour Patch Kids. The watermelon variety are preferable, but really any will do.
- Three tubs of Ben & Jerry's ice cream. Half-Baked, Cherry Garcia and Cappuccino were our picks.
- Four bottles of nail polish. Black must be included in the spirit of mourning those midterms.
- One book bag (full of uncompleted schoolwork) per attendee.

Directions:

1. Have all night-in attendees congregate, sweatpants-clad, in one room at approximately 9 p.m.
2. Briefly debate whether you should all complete the work that you brought, then laugh at what a silly idea it is and drop your book bags in the hall, leaving you and all the other attendees with an incredible sense of levity.
3. Fashion yourself and the other attendees into a formation that allows you to all comfortably sit and use one blanket at the same time. Sitting on a bed is recommended, but creative measures are also encouraged.

4. Engage in a lengthy, highly intellectual discussion about how everyone in attendance should eat healthier and exercise more.
5. Open first 400 bags of Sour Patch Kids. Proceed to eat.
6. Contemplate disposing of wrappers.
7. Neglect to dispose of said wrappers. Decide to instead locate a movie worth watching.
8. Discuss in great detail the pros and cons of the different stages of Brad Pitt's appearance. Come to the conclusion that he was at his prime during *Fight Club*.
9. Celebrate your discovery by consuming all three pints of Ben & Jerry's ice cream over the course of 10 minutes.
10. In your ice cream-induced stupor, finish the remaining Sour Patch Kids and fall into a delicious high fructose corn syrup-y sleep.
11. Sappy music from chosen Netflix movie continues to play.

With these 10 easy steps, I can personally guarantee the perfect night in, as well as at least four pounds in weight gain. Happy staying in!



COURTESY OF MELODY SWEN

Totto Ramen opens at 11 a.m. every day, and it does not take reservations, so beware of the lines!

New York: fall break edition

By **MELODY SWEN**
Your Weekend Editor

As a West Coaster born and raised, coming to the East Coast for school has never quite lost its glamor for me, even after encountering the more gritty parts of living in an urban setting. I've stood for countless hours waiting for public transit that never seems to arrive until I'm desperate enough to call a taxi, I've been the victim of a phone theft (I was unharmed, thankfully) and I've walked into a bus only to be greeted with a waft of what can only be described as human excrement.

However, one of the biggest perks of attending an East Coast school is the proximity to other major cities and areas. Philadelphia, Washington D.C., Boston, New Jersey and New York are all within a reasonable distance by bus or train. It's almost mind-blowing how a few hours of travel can transport you to a city with an entirely different culture and pace of life. In California, driving for seven hours in one direction will just offer you the lovely smell of cow manure and ranches (though with cow manure

comes delicious beef and pot roast).

All talk of pot roast aside, I'm especially excited for this year's annual Fall Break New York excursion. Though Fall Break is structured differently this year, I'm celebrating my short but sweet respite from midterms by staying in New York for three days with a friend. Additionally, my trip is made all the sweeter by the \$1 ticket (New York to Baltimore) I managed to snag while perusing online for my Bolt Bus ticket, bringing my total cost to a mere \$24 round trip.

What kind of sorcery did I magic up to procure such a ridiculously-priced ticket, you ask? Unfortunately, I have neither a magic spell or a coupon code for you. I believe that the coveted \$1 Bolt Bus tickets are available randomly on the website, though booking your ticket ahead of time would probably give you a higher chance of finding a \$1 trip.

So, by saving more than half of a full-priced round trip to New York, I intend to allocate more funds to my "go big or go home" food game plan. Here's a rough draft of my

food destinations for this weekend. Because really, I'd rather spend my money on my stomach than anything else.

1. Totto Ramen

This twenty-seater ramen shop is located around the corner from the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) and is, in my opinion, the best ramen place in the world. I have also been to Ippudo, but something about the rustic feel and the steaming vats of miso soup at Totto really speak to my soul. Or stomach, rather. But aren't the two synonymous anyways?

2. Spot Dessert Bar

I don't have any prior experience to speak of, but from what I see from Instagram and food blogs, I am prepared to be properly and utterly amazed.

3. Laut Malaysian/Singapore Kitchen

As described by Yelp, the Roti Canai (a crispy, doughy, chewy pancake with a spicy chicken cury dipping sauce) is legendary, as well as the surprising Michelin Star awarded to the restaurant.

And there you have it, my hit list for this weekend. Have a great break!



COURTESY OF MONKEYWING VIA FLICKR

Sometimes the weekend isn't meant for having an adventure. Sometimes it calls for hibernation.

Noteworthy Events



FILE PHOTO

Throat Culture 24 Hour Show

8 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 18
Arellano Theater

Throat Culture is the only sketch comedy group at Hopkins. Their main inspiration is Saturday Night Live. Performances include filmed skits and live acting, so get ready for some improvisation! Sketches may range from long works to impromptu short ones that are written and performed within 24 hours. There are only three performances a semester, so don't miss it! Admission is free, and all characters and humorous attendees are encouraged to attend.

Baltimore Running Festival

12 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 18
M&T Bank Stadium

Regardless of if you've been training 7 days a week for the half marathon or not, the running festival has everything from a marathon, to a half-marathon, 5k race, team relay and a kids' fun run. Be sure to drop by the Baltimore Convention Center for a free health and fitness exposition and the celebration village for various festivities. Race registration starts at \$15 and can be bought over the phone or online. Fitness junkies and non-fitness junkies all are welcome!



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BMA 100 Day Celebration (left) and The Truck Gathering (right)



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Maryland Renaissance Festival (left) and Free Fall B'more (right)



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Calendar

10/17 BMA 100 Day Celebration (Baltimore Museum of Art)

The Gathering: Food Truck Rally (Downtown Baltimore)

10/18 Maryland Renaissance Festival (Crownsville Fairgrounds)

10/19 Free Fall Baltimore (Downtown Baltimore)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Kooks add British charm to Rams Head

By ALEXANDRA SAICHIN
For *The News-Letter*

This past Saturday, British rock band The Kooks skipped over the pond to visit Rams Head, Live! at the Power Plant in Baltimore. The band originated in Brighton, East Sussex in 2004 and has produced chart-topping songs on and off since then. After considerable inactivity, The Kooks released their newest album, *Listen*, in its entirety just last month.

Rams Head was buzzing with impatience for the headliners as the opening act, Halsey, continued to flounce across the stage in her plaid, school girl skirt while repeatedly sharing that it

was her first time on tour.

Impatience turned to anticipation when the openers exited the stage and the banner dropped, as if answering the rowdy cheers of the largely college-based crowd. When Kooks lead singer Luke Pritchard sauntered on stage and grabbed his guitar, the vibe changed significantly. Rams Head was bathed in a pink glow as listeners bobbed at the knees to the popular song "Ooh La." The floor was comfortably full, and the balconies were stacked with attentive fans.

The band plowed through songs the audience was familiar with while also making sure to play songs from each

SEE KOOKS, PAGE B4



COURTESY OF VERA LOVE VIA FANPOP

The Kooks were well-received during their Baltimore performance.

The Hippodrome presents *I Love Lucy Live on Stage*

By AMANDA AUBLE
Arts & Entertainment Editor

One of America's most beloved television classics bursts back to life as the national tour of *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* begins its two-week stay at Baltimore's Hippodrome Theatre. Yesterday's performance marked the show's grand opening, and it will continue to provide an interactive audience experience until Sunday, Oct. 26.

Directed by Rick Sparks, *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* thrusts theatergoers into the classic era of the *I Love Lucy* television series, which originally premiered 63 years ago. It's 1952, and viewers don't walk into the Hippodrome but instead enter the Desilu Playhouse located in sunny Hollywood, Calif. as the live studio audience.

Fans of the show get to watch the performers reenact two original TV episodes, "The Benefit" and "Lucy Has Her Eyes Examined," written by Jess Oppenheimer, Madelyn Pugh and Bob Carroll Jr. Live and in color, this show also includes commercial break filming to really recreate the old Hollywood vibe.

To maintain this illusion of the *I Love Lucy* world, Maury Jasper (Mark Christopher Tracy) serves as the crowd's concierge. Complete with a portable headset, Jasper welcomes and preps audience members for their role in the television production at the show's beginning, encouraging them to applaud even if the studio's



COURTESY OF AMANDA AUBLE

The Hippodrome Theatre is presenting shows from the national tour of *I Love Lucy Live on Stage*.

red sign isn't illuminated. He also periodically interrupts the tapings to introduce advertisements or explain filming techniques.

The set is divided in half, one curtain revealing the iconic Ricardo living room — complete with piano — and the opposite side serving as the club where Ricky performs. Gold curtains also provide the backdrop for performances by the Crystalltone Singers (Sarah Elizabeth Combs, Gregory Franklin, Carlos Martin, Richard Strimer and Sara Jayne Blackmore).

A standout cast member, Thea Brooks, masterfully and consistently mimics Lucy's exaggerated and childish personality. Whether she is begging Ricky to visit the eye doctor or dancing a con-

fusing Jitterbug, Brooks maintains not only Lucille Ball's voice, but also her classic comedy.

Born in Santa Fe, Cuba, Euriamis Losada perfectly portrays the Havana-born Ricky Ricardo. Losada not only effortlessly recreates Ricky's thick Cuban accent, but he also manages to balance Ricky's frustration with and love for Lucy.

Lucy and Ricky would not be complete without their eccentric neighbors, Fred and Ethel Mertz (Kevin Remington and Lori Hammel). Although minor characters, the couple provides some great comedic moments in the show, such as Ethel's comically disastrous Women's Club benefit.

This recreation of the *I Love Lucy* nostalgia remains successful because

Tracy and others refuse to break character. At the very opening of the show, host Jasper polled the audience, asking who hailed from local areas of California.

When only three or four hands were raised, Jasper then asked for representation of the other 47 states. After nearly the entire audience raised their hands, Jasper marveled at the amount of tourists.

Furthermore, the show also includes a plant in the audience, Mrs. Birdie Mae Figg (Denise Moses). Mrs. Figg is a devoted fan of *I Love Lucy* and won a contest allowing her to fly from her home in Oklahoma to see the show. Jasper repeatedly calls on her to speak for the audience and her "country bumpkin" behavior provides humor.

SEE LUCY, PAGE B5

Skeleton Twins surprises with odd casting choices

By SARAH SCHREIB
For *The News-Letter*

To those who saw the movie poster of Kristen Wiig and Bill Hader, two of *SNL*'s most popular comedians in recent seasons, and anticipated an uproarious comedic masterpiece: Expect to be stunned and slightly drained by the hour and a half film of dark intensity that makes up *The Skeleton Twins*.

A low-budget "dramedy" directed and co-written by Craig Johnson, the film portrays the lives of estranged twins Milo and Maggie (Hader and Wiig). They are brought together after 10 years of not speaking due to the news of Milo's attempted suicide. Maggie decides to bring Milo, a failed actor waiting tables in Los Angeles, to stay with her and her husband in their seemingly idyllic home in New York where she works as a successful dental hygienist. The film takes place over the span of a few weeks, throughout which the twins recall their upbringing, particularly the events surrounding their father's suicide, and force one another to confront the truth about their current lives.

For a movie that is largely comprised of intense, mature themes, including suicide, depression and marital strife,

Hader and Wiig are not the most obvious casting choices. As a result, their performances in the film's darker scenes waver between convincing and uncomfortable.

At times it almost feels as though the audience is watching an impression or caricature of actors in these situations. This is especially true when watching Wiig perform. Though there is an obvious connection between the actors and a chemistry that makes them believable siblings,

it is hard to not feel as though the film would have benefitted from actors who have more experience performing in dramatic films.

The more light-hearted moments, while scarce, are when the true talents of these actors are displayed. The scene in which Maggie and Milo, while under the influence of nitrous oxide, play with dental tools in Maggie's office as if they are young children again particularly highlights both their comedic im-

Expect to be stunned and slightly drained.



COURTESY OF DREWJOANA VIA FANPOP

In contrast to its darker themes of depression and suicide, *Skeleton Twins* is visually light and warm.

Weezer reaches pop to rock compromise

By JOHN SWEENEY
Staff Writer

In an attempt to draw back the fans that launched Weezer to fame in 1994, the band released its ninth studio album in its now 21-year career, titled *Everything Will Be Alright in the End*, on Oct. 7.

Weezer has drawn heavy criticism over the past decade and a half for straying away from the sound that made them a staple of '90s alternative-pop music. However, the band has reached a compromise between slight adventurousness and sonic familiarity on its most recent record.

Ric Ocasek — also a founding member of The Cars — produced Weezer's first two albums as well as *Everything Will Be Alright in the End*, which could partially account for the semi-return to form.

Nevertheless, the album's purpose raises a new question: Exactly how much of a return to form is Weezer's most recent record?

According to *Pitchfork*'s Contributing Editor Ian Cohen, Weezer's backtracking efforts are only minor improvements.

"[*Everything Will Be Alright in the End* is] actually not terrible...

certainly better than *Hurley*," Cohen wrote, referencing the band's previous album.

This criticism aside, those who have tuned out everything that Weezer has produced since the mid-90s may still want to tune back in for this recent release. *Everything Will Be Alright in the End* shows the band catering to the demands of its fans by showcasing their classic '90s musical style.

Weezer's expansive career began with the band's eponymous debut album, commonly referred to as *The Blue Album* (1994). Certified triple-platinum in the U.S., *The Blue Album* was — and still is — universally acclaimed as one of the best and most influential albums to be released in the '90s. It includes hits such as "Buddy Holly," "Say It Ain't So" and "Undone (The Sweater Song)."

Following the success of *The Blue Album*, frontman Rivers Cuomo took a break from the spotlight to enroll at Harvard. There, he dealt with the pain of a recent surgery and the need to get away from the public eye. Cuomo's feelings of isolation and experiences at Harvard both shaped the band's second record, cult-classic

SEE WEEZER, PAGE B5

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Five fall performances to look out for in Baltimore

By CHACONNE
MARTIN-BERKOWICZ
Arts & Entertainment Editor

When bright skies turn to gray and Hunters are preferred over Rainbows, indoor activities become more appealing. Instead of spending an evening frat-hopping in the rain or staying in watching Netflix, check out some of the bands coming to Baltimore later this month.

On Oct. 21, Chicago-based band Twin Peaks will be performing at the Metro Gallery, just a few blocks from Penn Station. The relatively new band, which gained popularity after playing lots of house shows, started touring after their senior year of high school. The band is quickly gaining recognition and recently performed at Chicago's Pitchfork Music Festival this summer.

Twin Peaks is not your typical boy band. Their sound is far more rock and roll than pop. When asked about their second album released this summer, *Wild Onion*, in an interview with *Stereogum*, the band asserted its rock roots.

"We're all huge fans of the Beatles' production on all of their records... We were all getting real into *Exile On Main Street* and the Stones a couple months before we recorded, so that definitely played a little impact on how everything was turning out," Twin Peaks said.

Twin Peaks is an inspiration to many younger independent bands. In an interview with *Interview Magazine*, bassist Jack Dolan addressed the issue of integrating such bands into the music scene.

"Just the fact that we were so young coming out in the DIY scene, it was kind of freaky. We had always wanted to do it. Me and Cadien and these guys, we would always go to these house shows — these DIY shows — and we would be like, 'Why can't we set anything up here?' No one wants to book a 15-year-old band. When that started finally happening, and people welcomed us with open arms — I strive to do the same thing when I see younger bands. I see myself in them," Dolan said.

Fans of Bleached, Neutral Milk Hotel or Deerhunter may enjoy Twin Peak's music.

Ghost Hotel is an indie pop band from Maryland that will perform with Heavy Lights, New God and Seaknuckle at the Metro Gallery on Thursday, Oct. 23. Their first album *Do You Feel It* was released in 2012 and illustrates the band's indie pop and electro sound. Both Alison Crawford and Sam Paxton sing, and on the track "All Day Ocean," they harmonize



COURTESY OF KMERON VIA FLICKR

Rap artist Waka Flocka Flame has produced many popular songs, with some even topping U.S. Billboard Charts.

nicely, highlighting how strong the combination of male and female vocals can be. Fans of Wye Oak, Yuna and Two Door Cinema Club may enjoy Ghost Hotel's music.

Rapper Riff Raff (Horst Christian Simco) and Waka Flocka Flame (Juaquin Malphurs) will be performing at Baltimore Soundstage on Oct. 28. Riff Raff collaborated with artists including Childish Gambino, Mike Posner and Mac Miller on his most recent album, *Neon Icon*, released this past June. The tracks on the album have rather eccentric lyrics, differentiating Riff Raff from some of his peers.

"I could freestyle to a dolphin and a tambourine / The snow abominable laughin' inside my golden vault / The Candy Copper Helicopter when I'm playing gold," Riff Raff raps in "Aqua-berry Dolphin."

Songs like these, as well as more popular tracks like "Tip Tow Wing In My Jawwdinz" and "Dolce & Gabbana," will surely have the audience dancing and singing along, even if they themselves don't know what message Riff Raff is trying to send.

Hip hop artist Waka Flocka Flame has produced many hit songs, including "No Hands," "O Let's Do It" and "Hard in da Paint." His songs are catchy, and it's no surprise that several have made it onto the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 chart.

Many may not know that Flame is also an animal rights advocate who worked with PETA on a fur campaign.

"[Fur is] ugly to me. It's nasty as hell. Every time I think about furs, I just think about pimps and big-ass rings and somebody trying to be too extra. You wear fur, it's like you trying to be something you not. You get fur, you can spend the same money on like, 30

jackets. And it's gonna do you better, that sh*t gonna keep you warm," Flame said in an interview with *The Boombox*.

For those looking for a more mellow fall concert to attend, duo She Keeps Bees will perform at the Metro Gallery on Oct. 28. Vocalist Jessica Larabee and drummer Andy LaPlant partnered with sound engineer Nicolas Vernhes (who also worked with Deerhunter and The War on Drugs) to produce their most recent album, *Eight Houses*, released this past September. Tracks on the album are the ideal soundtrack for a melancholic fall day. Fans of Wye Oak, Nico and Cat Power may enjoy listening to She Keeps Bees.

For those looking for an alternative to spending Halloween in Fells Point,

Tribal Seeds will be performing at the Baltimore Soundstage on Oct. 31. The California-based reggae band's most recent album, *Representing*, was released this past May and exudes chill vibes with tracks like "Herb Stock" and "Fill It Up." When asked by the blog Surf Channel about their impressions on the album, member Tony-Ray Jacobo expressed his thoughts.

"I feel it's our best production yet. Spent a lot of time in the details of the music, most we've ever spent. With roots reggae as the foundation of our sound, I feel we give it a fresh, energetic feel. The lyrics will always promote a spiritual, uplifting, loving and militant message," Jacobo said. Fans of Rebelution and Nas will enjoy listening to Tribal Seeds.

The Kooks lead singer Pritchard wows crowd

KOOKS, FROM B3
of their four albums. The crowd grew more enthusiastic with each performance, chanting "Jackie Big Tits" between songs and provoking the band until they played the hit from the 2006 album *In-side In/Inside Out*. Vocalist Luke Pritchard continued to perform crowd favorites, and when the band performed "Seaside" the mood was appropriately mellowed through the use of soft blue lighting.

The Kooks kept the energy high, but the emotional impact of their music fluctuated. Melancholic tunes like "Shine On" reminded the young crowd of their pre-teen years and breakups, while groove anthems

like "Junk of the Heart" reminded of a day spent in the sun. The audience members' head-nodding and hip-swaying responded zealously to every change in a song's tempo, and arms waved in sync as if everyone had shared the same experiences relating to the song being played.

The Kooks left humble and appreciative Baltimore to continue their tour through Japan and Europe. The tour will end in February 2015. Baltimore will surely be happy to host the U.K.-based band again after being reminded of a decade of spunky, feel-good music that will continue to be played in coffee shops and dorm rooms for years to come.



COURTESY OF VERA LOVE VIA FANPOP

The Kooks will be touring in Japan and Europe until next February.

Kristen Wiig and Bill Hader lack conviction

Although independent, *Skeleton Twins* stays away from experimentation

SKELETON, FROM B3
center of one of the film's darker plot points.

Surprisingly, much of the comedic relief stems from Luke Wilson's character, Rich, an outdoorsy, scuba-diving manly-man with a heart of pure gold who is thrilled by the prospect of fatherhood. Wilson is perfectly cast in the role, and his outlandish sincerity becomes a comedic counter to Milo's dry, sardonic humor.

Visually, the film radiates a certain warmth because of the diffused lighting and the natural vibrancy of autumn in rural New York. However, this warmth quickly wears away in scenes of conflict, reminding the audience members that situations in their lives can suddenly transform from being carefree and blissful to stressful and uncomfortable, especially when family is involved.

Unlike other films included in the quirky, low-budget genre, *The Skeleton Twins* does not try to be overly experimental in its choice of camera angles and lighting. Instead it allows the characters and their complex relationships to be the main focus of the film. Many shots give the audience access to close-ups of the characters' faces, revealing the true emotions behind the façades the characters have created for themselves. This

technique is particularly poignant in one of the film's most moving and visually stunning sequences involving Milo and Maggie.

In this sequence, a dance at a Halloween-themed restaurant transforms into a loving embrace between the siblings.

One of the strongest and most haunting visual motifs throughout the film involves water

and drowning, connecting the difficult past and present the twins share. The presence of plastic skeletons and gifts to Milo and Maggie from their father before his eventual suicide are other motifs which remind us of the family's obsession with death.

All-in-all, *The Skeleton Twins* is complex, thoughtful and incredibly engaging. It keeps

the audience captivated by its nuanced and deeply troubled characters and, through relaying their story, makes you consider the true significance of family in the course of your own life.

Though it is not what you would expect from a cast of comedians and certainly not a fun family film, it is definitely worth the bus ride down to the Charles Theatre.



COURTESY OF ANDYCOLLEGIAN VIA FLICKR

Riff Raff has a unique style known for its eccentric, unusual lyrics.



COURTESY OF DREWJOANA VIA FANPOP

Skeleton Twins focuses viewers on the complex emotional relationships characters have with one another.

The Giver eerily portrays sterile future

Newest Weezer album aims to please fans

Sometimes, the odd case arises when a film that is beautiful on virtually every level can still somehow fall flat. From the concept to the cinematography, to the acting and to the atmosphere, every piece can function perfectly, yet the overall product somehow fails to be as great as the sum of its parts. This, unfortunately, is the case of Phillip Noyce's recent adaptation of *The Giver*.

I remember having my eyes glued to Lois Lowry's book while in elementary school. I thought to myself, "This would make an excellent movie," and I really hoped someone would translate the novel to the screen someday. Like many stories I've read, I wanted to see *The Giver* on the big screen, moving, breathing and alive. That was roughly ten years ago, and now I finally know why that book took so long to get a movie adaptation; worse yet, it's clear why it shouldn't have.

The story appears at first glance to have all of the necessary components for a compelling, entertaining and thought-provoking sci-fi film: a unique, disturbing and intriguing setting as well as fascinating characters and a sense of direction rarely seen.

The story is set in a futuristic world where strife, discrimination, conflict and unhappiness seemingly no longer exist. In fact, it's not just unhappiness that's missing, but the entire emotional spectrum, including all sense of history, memory and humanity.



COURTESY OF JOSH JENSEN VIA FLICKR
In *The Giver*, Jeff Bridges's character donates the memories and histories of his town to a young protégé.

Through medications and treatments designed to strip away all senses that might instigate conflict or disagreement (right down to the ability to see in color), the government ensures that the world can remain peaceful and prosperous. However, the government still recognizes the wisdom and knowledge necessary to mediate potential outlier conflict situations. Thus, they select one person from their ranks to become the "Receiver of Memory," who learns of all the world's prior conflicts and history in order to advise a top government official (played by Meryl Streep).

As protagonist Jonas (Brenton Thwaites) is selected to become the new Receiver, he begins receiving

knowledge from the Giver (Jeff Bridges), the previous Receiver. Armed with all the knowledge the world has to offer, Jonas must choose whether to continue this cycle of ignorance or to free the world from its bonds, at the risk of reigniting conflicts that may tear the world asunder.

The film offers a fantastic commentary on a number of thought-provoking issues, such

as what it means to be human, what it means to live with pain and precisely what role knowledge plays in society. Nevertheless, this commentary falls short because of the way the film presents these elements. Much of the story is conveyed through voice-over narration, which feels incredibly jarring in some scenes and fails to evoke the disturbing immersive quality required in a film with a setting as twisted as this.

As horrific as the world is, and as much as we may root for Jonas in his emotional quest, it is difficult to fully grasp what is at stake. The film seems to deliberately hold the audience back. We are led to believe that the status quo of their society is bad, yet little is done to show why this is the norm or how the world reached this state.

The scenes wherein the backstory of the world is revealed to Jonas are nearly glanced over. Rather than showing us what is at stake, the film is far more content to let

Bridges explain to the audience what they should be thinking. While passable in novel form, this style fails to entice people interested in watching a film rather than reading a book.

That isn't to say that the film isn't beautifully shot: painstaking detail was obviously put into every set in the film, creating a utopian yet eerily sterile atmosphere that can be unsettling in places. Seamless blending of color schemes, coupled with some rather evocative camera work truly highlight not just how different the world is, but how the people within it see it so differently.

It is masterful to behold, again, when it is actually utilized. Too often, however, the film simply lets this work sit in the background, while piling the watcher with expository material, oftentimes with lines torn directly from the book. And, unfortunately, the dialogue does not translate particularly well from page to screen.

And that seems to be the root of the issue; some stories simply aren't meant for some mediums. *The Giver* is a world whose heart and soul can only be truly conveyed through the written word. There is simply too much to say and to do within a 90-minute slot. Perhaps if the film had been longer and had been given room to breathe, it may have developed better, although there is no way to truly know. *The Giver* stands as a testament that sometimes direct transpositions of books to film simply do not work. While ambitious and functional, it unfortunately collapses under its own weight before it can realize its potential.

Overall Rating: 3/5

WEEZER, FROM B3
album *Pinkerton* (1996).

Pinkerton didn't yield any top ten hits, but songs like "El Scorcho," "Pink Triangle" and "Across the Sea" are still fan favorites today. After the release of *Pinkerton*, Weezer's musical output began to receive a lot of flak from critics and fans alike.

Weezer's third album, also eponymous, but referred to as *The Green Album* (2001), was particularly poppy, a trend that followed the band all the way through the 2000s. To many, *The Green Album* showed the band selling out and pursuing more mainstream pop material.

The change in sound could partially be attributed to the departure of founding bassist Matt Sharp and Cuomo's disdain for Weezer's previous record, *Pinkerton*. The more albums Weezer released, it seemed, the further they got from the garage pop-rock that made *The Blue Album* and *Pinkerton* so popular.

In *Everything Will Be Alright in the End*, Weezer does a surprisingly good job of returning to popular form, a sign of hope for fans of earlier Weezer releases. On the album's opener "Ain't Got Nobody," the band sounds more gritty and characteristically introspective

than they have in recent years.

In addition, lead single "Back to the Shack" is a sentimental throwback that lyrically hails the band's glory days in the '90s. The heartfelt duet "Go Away," which features Best Coast's Bethany Cosentino, is a standout on the record.

In some instances, Weezer has yet to shake off the pop music superficialness that has driven many listeners away. That being said, *Everything Will Be Alright in the End* is uplifting when it succeeds in blending slight cliché with the Weezer sound

that everyone knows and loves. "Cleopatra" and "The British are Coming" feature cheesy references to historical figures and

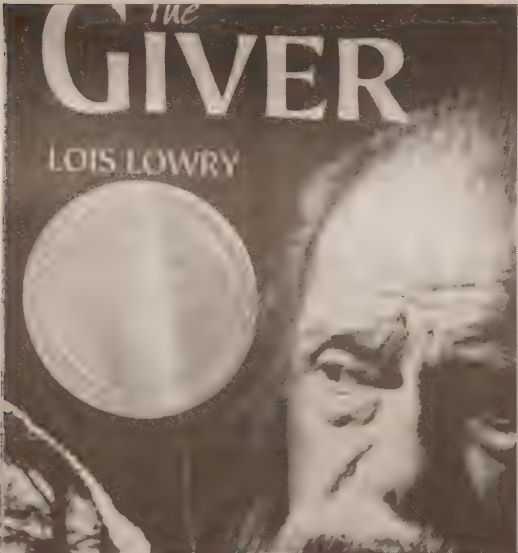
events, but ultimately offer the most satisfying melodies that Weezer has offered since at least 1999. Furthermore, "Lonely Girl" is a pop anthem that would fit perfectly on *The Green Album*.

At the end of the day, Weezer has exceeded the current expectations of critics and fans alike. The band returns to its '90s roots and puts out a record worthy of audiences' attentions in 2014.

Everything Will Be Alright in the End is out on Republic Records now and Weezer is touring clubs across the U.S. through the fall.



COURTESY OF VIA_NAZIA VIA FANPOP
Weezer looks back to alternative '90s roots to reconnect with fans.



COURTESY OF AMANDA AUBLE
The Giver, considered a classic, is often mandatory reading in schools.

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I Love Lucy takes the stage

LUCY, FROM B3
Another unique feature that draws the audience into the show is a trivia contest with the audience. *Lucy* audience members get a chance to get on stage and showcase their *I Love Lucy* knowledge as Jasper hosts the contest.

The show's costume designers, Shon LeBlanc and Kelly Bailey, also provide authentic '50s and '20s garments. *Lucy*'s fashion, including a plaid pantsuit, especially displays the clean-cut style of the past.

Although the television show scenes flow smoothly, *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* only shows some shortcoming during its advertising jingles. The Crystallone singers employ simple dance steps and catchy lyrics but sometimes lack distinct personality. Nevertheless, more popular commercials, like one for Chevrolet, are so nostalgic that their simple performances work well.

The Hippodrome Theatre will give fans plenty of opportunities to see the show with 12 pre-

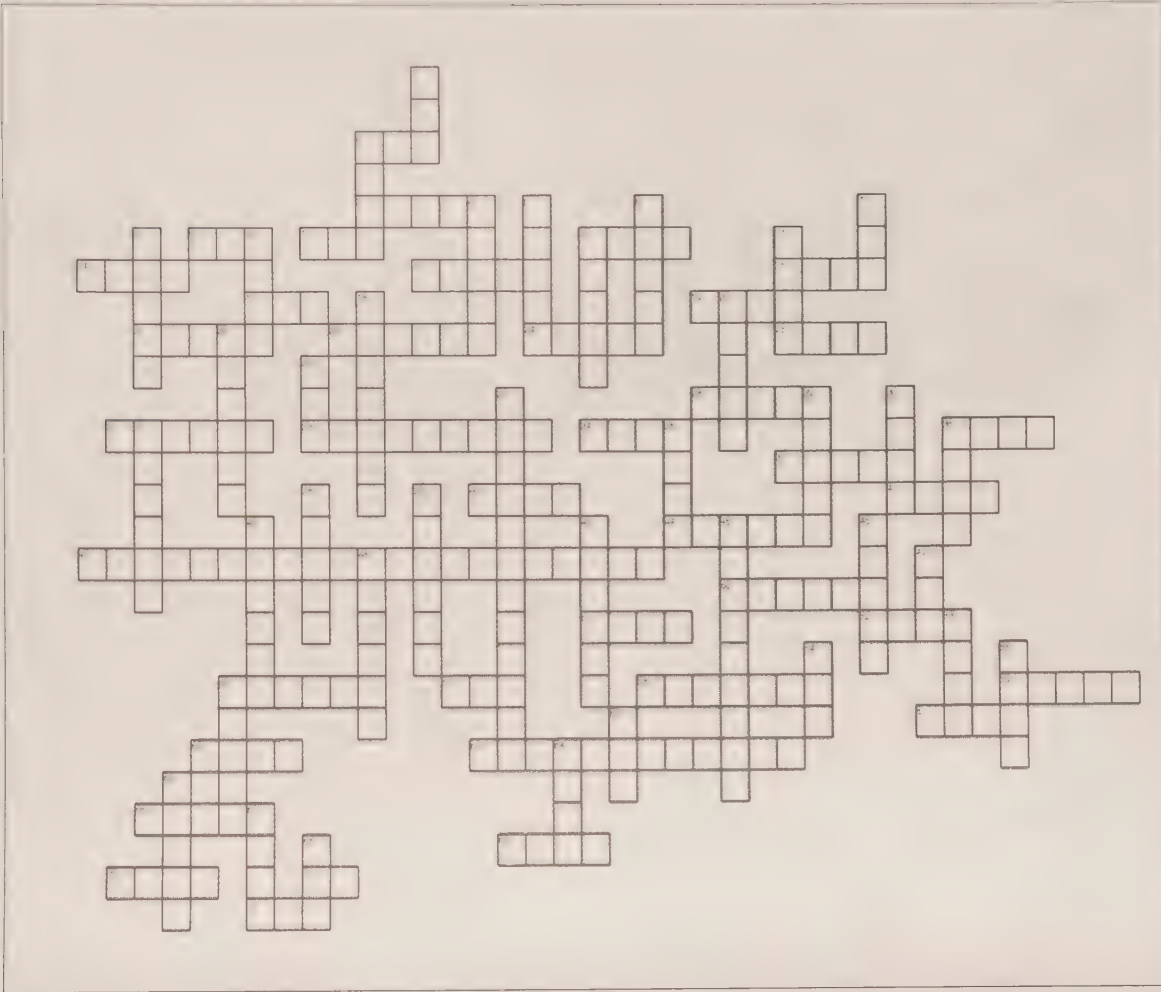
sentations of *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* from Tuesday, Oct. 14 until Sunday, Oct. 26.

Overall, *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* drew an older crowd of viewers who most likely grew up watching the show as it originally aired. However, *I Love Lucy* highlights typical 50s image and remains in syndication. Thus, some young adults with a love for Lucy also attended. According to the shows producers, over 350,000 fans have seen the show in its two national tours.

CARTOONS, ETC.

Diamond's Are A Girl's Best Friend

By Piper Sheren



- ACROSS
- DOWN
2. What Jay-Z does

3. Fill

9. ___ King Cole

11. Not he, but

12. Sea Snakes

14. Can Precede Cruz or Bradley

15. Can follow dinner or license

16. Gulf nation

17. Towards the stern

19. Indian bread

21. Marxist Struggle

23. What zombies crave

24. Establish

25. Winter weather staple

28. Small film role

31. Type of tea

33. Mario's carbon vehicle

34. Part of the neck

36. Yellow Brick, for one

37. Color or party

40. Baby cow when eaten

41. Amo, amas, ___

44. Forever

47. "Keep Calm, Shine On" Man

50. TV. serial killer

51. Something you buy

52. Bring in

56. Card game or vehicular X-ing

57. Slang for gun

58. Despicable creature

59. Griffin of Family Guy

61. Heaven & hell both have one

62. Place

63. Cheers to Diamonds!

66. Stops

69. Embargo of 1973

70. One great lake

71. Opposite of Off

72. Fish eggs
1. Fondue is one

2. Titanic leading lady

4. Phi Psi, SAE, Sig Ep, etc

5. Skyfall singer

6. Up in the air

7. Weasley son

8. Place to run

10. ___ The Night Before Christ mas

12. Excited

13. Charged particles

18. Current Pope

20. Pretend to be

22. Small harpsichord

26. Axe competitor

27. Shimmering pints

29. Shrek and his friends

30. Type of coffee

32. Portfolio of work

35. American Humorist (Mare anagram)

36. Actual

38. Fable writer

39. Has direction and magnitude

42. Bread for a house

43. He likes it when you call him Big Papa

45. Weekday or Addams

46. Anxiety causer

48. Wall socket

49. Served in pints

53. One of the Tellelubbies

54. To do so is human

55. Peak

56. Infamous Kazakhstan Native

60. Consumed

64. Party

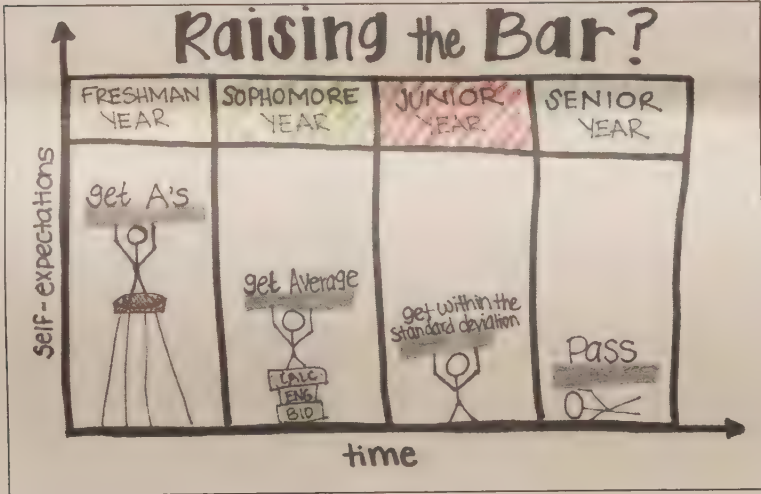
65. True

67. Someone who looks into the future

68. Gardening tool

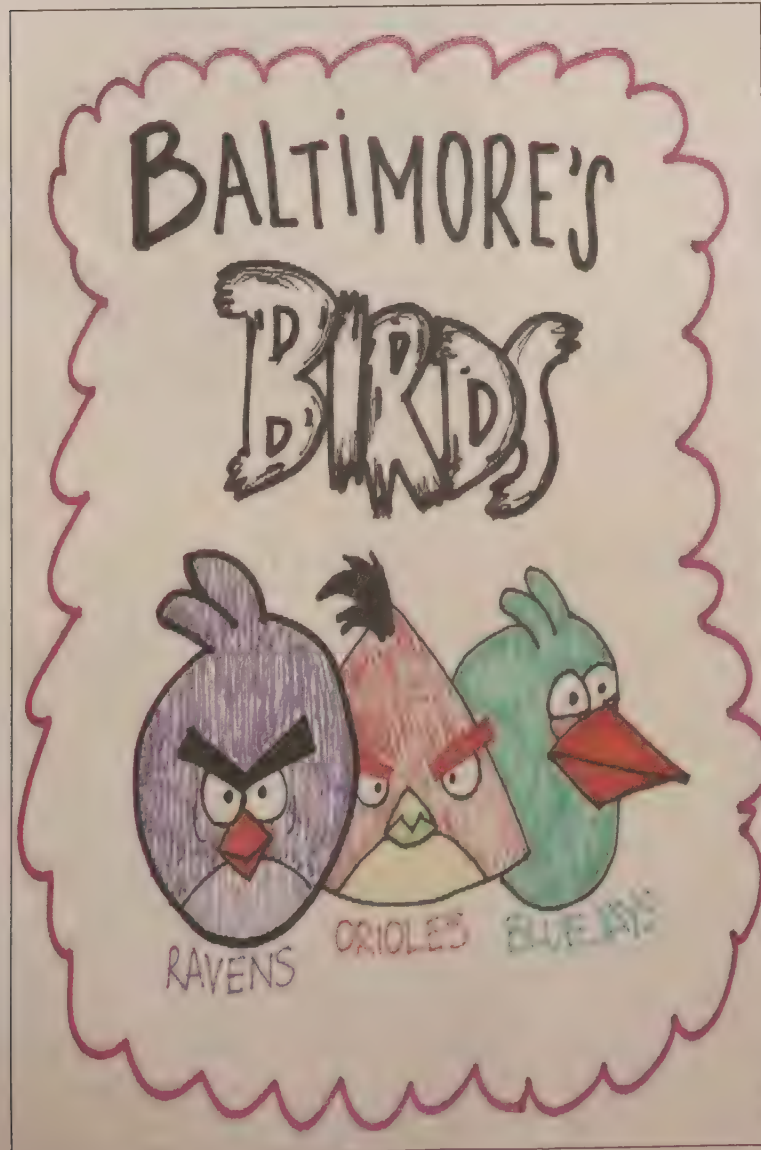
Raising The Bar

By Chloe Ferris



Baltimore's Birds

By Chloe Ferris



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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Tobacco plants could be key to Ebola vaccine

By SARAH SUKARDI
Staff Writer

Consider the vaccine. It is administered to hundreds of thousands of screaming infants and toddlers each year; its advertisements are ubiquitous in store and pharmacy windows during flu season. Vaccines are also commonly grown and incubated in the eggs of mammalian animals, to be harvested and made into the fluid which we inject into our upper arms. But researchers have found that there may be a cheaper and better way to produce vaccines, and the answer lies in the form of the tobacco plant.

"Biopharming," or creating pharmaceutical drugs through the genetic modification of plants, has recently been thrust into the spotlight due to the recent Ebola outbreak. The promise of using tobacco plants to create a vaccine arose in August when two medical missionaries were given an experimental drug, ZMapp. Created by Mapp Biopharmaceutical, ZMapp was effective on rhesus macaques infected with Ebola; it had never been tested on a human subject. The missionaries who had contracted Ebola, Nancy Writebol and Dr. Kent Brantly, were the first to ever try the drug.

ZMapp seemed extremely effective on



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Tobacco plants may play a role in mass-produced Ebola vaccines.

Writebol and Brantly. Both of their conditions improved dramatically a single hour after treatment with ZMapp. The missionaries eventually healed and were discharged to their families.

ZMapp is not a completely novel drug; rather, it was created as a combination of antibodies which were optimized from two previous antibody cocktails. Xiangguo Qiu, a biologist at the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg, Canada and part of the team that created ZMapp, noted that the new drug seemed to be much more effective than any other form of Ebola medication on the market.

The process used to create ZMapp is time-consuming and expensive. The promise of tobacco plants is that in-

cubating the vaccine in them could decrease the price of creating ZMapp. Kentucky BioProcessing, a pharmaceutical company in Owensboro, Kentucky, has been working in conjunction with Mapp Biopharmaceutical to develop a ZMapp serum using tobacco plants.

Medicago Inc., a biopharmaceutical company in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina, has already confirmed the viability of creating simpler flu vaccines using tobacco plants. The company created 10 million vaccines over a 30-day period using genetically-modified tobacco plants at a very low cost. They eventually estimated that they could scale their operation to 100 million doses at less than 40 cents per dose. Researchers at the University of Louis-

ville's Owensboro Cancer Research Program have also used *Nicotiana benthamiana*, a close plant relative to tobacco, to create vaccines to prevent HIV transmission.

As of now, there is only one biopharmaceutical drug created from a plant which has been approved for use by the Food and Drug Administration: taliglucerase alfa, or Elelyso, an enzyme-replacement therapy for Gaucher's Disease manufactured from carrot cells.

If the biopharming experiment were to be a success, the Ebola vaccine could become the catalyst for many of the drugs and vaccines to be created through plants. Vaccines for influenza, Ebola and HIV may one day be commonly created via the conduit of tobacco plants.

New Windows 10 OS will arrive next year

By VICTOR DADFAR
For The News-Letter

Three years after the announcement of Windows 8, Microsoft is back with another entry in its

decades-spanning operating system. Whereas Windows 8 was meant to serve touch screens with large, easy-to-navigate

icons in a flat and colorful "metro" environment, the new Windows 10 will harken back to the old days with a more prominent desktop environment. With the changes, Microsoft intends to make it

easier than ever to use a Windows machine.

An issue facing Microsoft today is fragmentation, a problem that already exists in the Android operating system.

The new Windows 10 will harken back to the old days with a more prominent desktop environment.

Currently, the technology giant designs software for its Xbox, Windows Phone and Surface families of devices, as well as a

majority of the world's computers. And because of fragmentation, each runs a different, albeit graphically similar, operating system. Windows 10 changes that, as it is engineered to run on all of these devices and more without making major modifications to the internal code.

This practice will make it significantly easier for software engineers to develop for multiple devices. Fragmentation mainly hurts the developers of software, as it forces them to test compatibility on a large range of devices and operating systems before release.

The release of Windows 8 saw the death of the start menu, a change many users reacted toward negatively. With Windows 10, the start menu is brought back to life in a slightly different form. Rather than being static, it inherits interactive tiles from the metro theme of Windows 8. Also included in start is an omniscient search bar that will pull results from the internet in addition to local files on your computer.

Another change is the removal of the metro environment for desktop PCs. Instead, metro-designed apps are programmed to run inside a window, just like any other application, to ensure a visual consistency. The metro environment will still be present on touch-enabled devices and TVs.

Users are given the option to view all their open applications at once, similar to Mission Control in OS X. A much requested feature, support for multiple virtual desktops, is included. This allows users to run copies of the same desktop with different windows open in each desktop.

Other smaller tweaks include an option to paste into the Command Prompt, improved snap functions to seamlessly fit windows in different configurations and a "Continuum" mode that will automatically change the interface based on the type of input used (e.g. touchscreen, mouse and keyboard, remote control).

It is unclear why this latest entry skips a revision cycle from Windows 8 to Windows 10. According to Microsoft, they wanted users to understand that Windows 10 is not just an incremental release and to further distinguish the operating system as a new type of product. Windows 10 was announced on Sept. 30 and will be released in mid-2015.

Social anxiety disorders best treated by therapy

By JOHN HUGHES
Staff Writer

Today it may seem like there's a pill to treat everything. But is turning to medication always the best answer? A researcher at the Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) conducted a meta-analysis of studies from between 1988 to 2013 and found that individual Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT) is more effective at treating social anxiety disorder than any pharmacological or psychological treatment options. This analysis could help treat the 15 million people in the U.S. with social anxiety disorder.

Evan Mayo-Wilson, a researcher at the JHSPH, conducted the study. His analysis concludes that among all treatments studied, only individual CBT and the class of antidepressants known as selective serotonin-reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs) perform better at reducing levels of anxiety than their respective placebos. He also found that individual CBT performed better than SSRIs or SNRIs.

The analysis was published Sept. 26 in *The Lancet Psychiatry*. Several mass media outlets, including CNN, *Time* and *Forbes*, ran articles on the study.

Over the course of three years, from 2011 to 2014, the analysis identified 101 studies of both pharmacological and psychological treatments for social anxiety disorder, then compiled the data from those studies to draw conclusions about which treatments were most effective.

Mayo-Wilson began the analysis at Oxford University and continued it while working at the National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health (NCCMH), a division of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE), which develops clinical guidelines for healthcare in England and Wales. He then finished the analysis after moving to the JHSPH.

The analysis was funded by NICE as part of its efforts to determine optimized clinical guidelines for mental and physical ailments.

"Because [the UK] is a single payer system, there's an interest there in comparing everything that you can do for a problem and figuring out which is best. The goal of the project was to come up with a clinical guideline about how to treat social anxiety disorder," Mayo-Wilson said.

Among the treatments studied, although only individual CBT and SSRI/SNRIs performed better than the placebo, several other treatments performed better than the waitlist (patients receiving no treatment, placebo or otherwise) but not better than placebo. Among pharmacological treatments, those who performed better than the waitlist were monoamine oxidase inhibitors, benzodiazepines and anticonvulsants. Among psychological treatments, those who performed better than the waitlist were group CBT, exposure and social skills, self-help with support, self-help without support and psychodynamic psychotherapy.

Mayo-Wilson hopes that the findings that individual CBT performs better than other psychological treatments will encourage further research into those treatments.

"One of the things that we found is that there's very little evidence that combination therapy is better than any individual therapy. I think that there's a belief among a lot of practitioners that combination therapy is going to have the greatest benefit for people with common mental health problems, and there's some evidence that might be true in depression. I don't know that it's likely to be true in anxiety disorders. So I think that that's one area where people might do some more research on the back of this. I think that the finding that individual therapy is much more effective than group therapy will be a bit controversial, and then we're likely to see more trials comparing things like individual CBT versus group CBT," Mayo-Wilson said.

Mayo-Wilson also hopes that the same will be true for the

SEE ANXIETY, PAGE B8

DJs
KANTON
FOXX BOOGIE

MC
GREY MATTER

JUDGES
WAAK
GUNJAK

MIGHTY MOUSE BOMBEY

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
MATTIN SDS ROOM
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URBAN FLOOR DEGREE
3V3 BBOY BATTLE
AND SEVEN TO SMOKE BATTLE

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Bloomberg School hosts Ebola symposium



MICROBEWIKI KENYON EDU

JHSPH held a symposium to discuss the Ebola epidemic in Africa.

By CATIE PAUL

Science & Technology Editor

Hopkins is no stranger to battling epidemics. From the influenza epidemic of 1918 and 1919 to the AIDS crisis, Hopkins researchers have worked on accurately diagnosing patients, developing treatments and identifying at-risk populations. This is why, to Hopkins President Ronald J. Daniels, it made sense that Hopkins would host a symposium on the current Ebola epidemic. The symposium was held Tuesday, Oct. 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH). It was also available to the public on a livestream.

"As we consider the daunting implications for the global population, we are acutely aware of [the University's] obligation to marshal our intellectual and moral bounty," Daniels said in his opening statement before the symposium began. Daniels addressed the crowded auditorium after Michael Klag, dean of the JHSPH. Klag welcomed everyone who came and thanked Andrew Pekosz, an associate professor of molecular microbiology and immunology at the JHSPH, who organized the symposium.

Pekosz, following Daniels, gave a short synopsis of the symposium. Afterwards the official presentations began. The first speaker was David Peters, the chair of International Health at the JHSPH. Peters gave a presentation titled "Be

happy, stay hopeful." A Community-Based Strategy to Fight Ebola." Peters focused not just on the Ebola epidemic, but also on a way to fight epidemics in Africa in general. He addressed the idea of a self-reinforcing cycle of epidemics; one of the hardest-hit populations in Africa during epidemics is health care workers. There are 100 dead health care workers in Liberia alone due to Ebola. These deaths lead to clinics closing, which then leads to a worsening not just of the epidemic but also of all other diseases, such as malaria and pneumonia. This in turn leads to economic losses as people stop working and lose their income. Economic losses lead to a lack of social capital as distrust of the government and loss of community cohesiveness grows.

Peters believes that leadership is a way to end this cycle. He singled out Tolbert Nyenyah, the assistant minister of health in Liberia, from whom he got the "Be happy, stay hopeful" quote. He also talked about Felix Kabange, the minister of health from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Kabange has experience from seven prior epidemics in the DRC and wants to share what he has learned from them with the afflicted countries in West Africa. One of Kabange's ideas is to modify traditional burial ceremonies, which last a long time and require touching the corpse, which can lead to the

transmission of Ebola. Kabange also wants to end the stigmatization of survivors and provide a high quality of care to patients.

Peters calls the concept he has come up with to halt epidemics the "Community Core Concept" (CCC). The CCC would be composed of a tightly knit team employed to act quickly and autonomously that would be deployed to a specific geographic area. The team would be made up of paid workers and volunteers who would ideally have their own labs out of which to work. The team would be composed largely of nurses and would rely on community leaders.

According to the Peters, Hopkins is the ideal place to start this concept because of its experience in epidemiology, infectious disease management, infection prevention and health services management. Also, since the CCC is such a new concept with little evidence to support it yet, the name recognition Hopkins commands might be necessary to get people to pay attention to it.

Trish Perl, a professor of medicine at the School of Medicine and a senior epidemiologist at the Johns Hopkins Health System, spoke after Peters. In her presentation "Rethinking Care: Lessons from the Current and Previous Ebola Outbreaks," she walked the audience through the background and epidemiology of Ebola. Ebola is one of two Filoviridae viruses, the other one being Marburg. The name Ebola comes from the Ebola River in the DRC, which is where Ebola was first discovered in 1976. There are five different types of Ebola, four of which reside in Africa. The type causing today's epidemic is called Ebola Zaire and is one of the most feared for its deadliness.

Perl's argument, similar to that of Peters, is that it isn't enough to just go in with drugs that will help treat Ebola.

We need to help African countries overhaul their health care systems in order to prevent transmission in the first place. Transmission is caused from contact with secretions such as saliva, tears and nasal blood from infected or deceased people. The very first infection came from an infected animal, but subsequent transmission has been human-to-human. Perl believes that simple barrier precautions can decrease transmission significantly.

Perl also believes that medical care needs to be improved. Liberia is facing serious challenges since their supplies are being rapidly depleted, they lack sterilization techniques for what supplies they do have and their isolation facilities are rudimentary at best. All of this contributes to the spread of Ebola.

Several departments of the U.S. government are assisting the stricken countries. The U.S. has pledged 4,000 troops, of which about 300 to 400 are currently in Africa. They are helping to coordinate logistics, train health care workers and build units to house patients. The U.S. sent about \$750 million in aid in September and have decided to send \$1.25 billion in October. The U.S. has provided the most money so far, with other contributions coming from other countries, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the Gates Foundation. In total, about \$818 million has been sent so far.

After the first session, there was an opportunity for audience members to ask questions of the three presenters. There were more question and answer opportunities throughout the symposium, as well as a panel discussion.

The panel and other sessions included a variety of other speakers. The featured speaker was Peter Agre, the director of the Malaria Research Institute at the JHSPH.

Study finds falling child mortality rates

By JOAN YEA

Staff Writer

Birth certificates are useful for more than just getting a passport. Vital statistics, specifically the documentation of births and deaths within a population, play a critical role in evaluating the progress toward achieving worldwide health goals.

One such

health

goal is the

U.N. Millennium

Development

Goal of reduc-

ing mortality

in children

under the age

of five by two-

thirds be-

tween 1990

and 2015.

A study led by the Bloomberg School of Public Health, published Oct. 1 in *The Lancet Medical Journal*, investigated the most prevalent causes of child mortality between 2000 and 2013 in 194 World Health Organization member states. It discovered that based on the trends in mortality, 4.4 million children under the age of five will die in 2030.

According to the most recent estimates presented by the U.N. Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation, 6.3 million children under the age of five died in 2013, a significant decline from the 12.7 million deaths in 1990. While 17,000 fewer children died every day in 2013 than in 1990, current trends indicate that not many countries will experience the accelerated improvement in child survival rates that is necessary for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal.

Of the 6.3 million children who died in 2013, 51.8 percent died of infectious causes, and 44 percent of the deaths occurred in the neonatal period, the period from birth to 28 days of age known to be the most vulnerable time for an infant. The three leading causes of death before five years of age were determined, in order of significance, to be preterm birth complications, which are complications from a baby being born too soon; pneumonia; and intrapartum-related complications, otherwise known as birth asphyxia, which is when a baby doesn't get enough oxygen before, during or after birth.

While preterm birth complications and pneumonia were also leading causes in 2000, intrapartum-related complications, in place of diarrhea, became the third most common cause of death in children under the age of five in 2013. Of special concern to the investigators were the minimal reductions in deaths due to congenital and preterm conditions, as well as neonatal sepsis, which is an infection in the blood of a baby, and injury, in the period from 2000 to 2013. However, there was a marked decrease in deaths attributed to pneumonia, diarrhea and measles.

The existence of interventions such as measles vaccinations helped greatly to lower the num-

ber of child deaths due to infectious causes.

Li Liu, lead author of the study and assistant professor in the departments of Population, Family and Reproductive Health and International Health at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, said that the disparity of resources between different hospital divisions is a

problem.

"There

needs to

be a tran-

sition in

terms of

resources

available

in pedi-

atric wards

that will

address

the shift

from in-

fectious

diseases

to neonatal fatality as the

leading cause of child

mortality," she said.

This shift, according to Liu, would require additional investment in the construction of viable neonatal resuscitation programs.

More resources are not only required for the aggressive expansion of high-quality health care, but also for the improvement in measuring child health statistics, a concern elaborated within the discussion section of the study in *The Lancet*. The validity of the estimates for cause-specific child mortality rates, as investigators noted, was limited by the quality of the available cause-of-death data.

Less than three percent of the 194 World Health Organization member states evaluated in the research had adequate vital registration systems. 90.2 percent of the countries lacked comprehensive data-gathering systems. Although the investigators were able to apply models to estimate worldwide cause-specific child mortality rates, the estimates would have been much more valid had the existing data been more accurate.

"Momentum to strengthen civil and vital registration systems would help bring some resources to shift the paradigm so that lawmakers and decision-makers are more aware of the importance of vital registration systems," Liu said. The further development of localized studies such as sample registration systems would also result in the advancement of health statistics.

The inclusive compilation of birth-and-death statistics within populations, as well as the accurate reporting of the circumstances of children's deaths, are imperative to decision-making since allocation of finite resources is based on existing data.

The cause-specific mortality rates estimated for the 6.3 million children who died in 2013 were founded on accessible health statistics. It is unclear as to how progress towards such laudable goals as the Millennium Development Goal of reducing mortality rates in children under the age of five can be tracked accurately without the betterment of health gathering systems.

Therapy may be more effective than medication

ANXIETY, FROM B7

pharmacological treatments, but doubts that industry will be willing to invest in research.

"The antidepressants that we looked at are all off patent. It may be that academics decide to do comparisons of drugs versus psychological therapies, but I don't see industry having much interest in continuing to put money into things that are not profitable," he said.

In the published analysis, Mayo-Wilson writes that the results may be affected by reporting bias, which tends to skew published studies towards positive results. However, recent requirements within the past five to 10 years that trials be registered before they are conducted have reduced bias. Full data sets for studies conducted before these requirements are also sometimes released after litigation. Mayo-Wilson

says that these data sets suggest that reporting bias in the studies analyzed is likely not severe.

"It's common now in studies of drugs and devices that you register trials in advance, he said. "So then we know what outcomes will be measured... For the drugs where we do have more complete data sets, for instance ones where they've been sued and forced to release more of the data, the outcomes

don't look too different from many of the other ones. So I think that we're probably in the right ballpark for most of the important [treatments]."

Though NICE is internationally recognized for its work with clinical guidelines, Mayo-Wilson is hopeful that such work will become more common in the U.S. in the near future even without a single-payer system through independent organizations like the American Psychological Association (APA).

"I've met with some folks at the American Psychological Association, which is getting into developing treatment guidelines," Mayo-Wilson said. "I hope that we start doing this kind of work more in America, because I think that having a systematic way of comparing treatments and trying to make recommendations about what the clinicians and patient should do is really important, and it's good to see the APA starting to do that."

Ultimately, Mayo-Wilson thinks that the analysis should encourage people to seek psychological treatment.

"The main clinical message is that there's something to be done about this. People should be going in and getting therapy," he said.



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Scientists have found that therapy is often more effective than taking antidepressants.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

JHSPH studies stigma of addiction, mental illness



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Researchers studied public views on addiction and mental illness.

By **ALIZAY JALISI**
Staff Writer

The stereotypical portrayals of people suffering from addiction and mental illness have become prevalent in the brains of many Americans due to messages conveyed by TV shows, addiction or depression recovery projects and brochures advertising antidepressants. These stereotypes are the root of a study conducted by Colleen Barry, associate professor and associate chair for research and practice in the Department of Health and Policy at the Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) titled “Discrimination, Treatment Effectiveness and Policy: Public Views About Drug Addiction and Mental Illness.”

The result of Dr. Barry’s study concluded that the general opinion of Americans is that drug addiction is much less socially acceptable than mental illness.

“The public views individuals’ struggles with addiction as the consequence of their own poor choices. While there is still a lot of stigma about mental illness, progress has been made in part as people have become more willing to talk about their own experiences. It is now much more okay than it used to be to openly discuss being on an antidepressant, for example,” Barry said.

Between Oct. 30 and Dec. 2 of 2013, Dr. Barry’s group surveyed 709 Americans about their attitudes towards people suffering from mental illness and from drug addiction. The study asked questions such as “Are you willing to marry into a family with history of drug addiction?” and “Would you work with someone with a mental illness?”

Barry described her team’s motivations behind this project, explaining that understanding public views of these health issues is a crucial step to resolving them.

“To figure out how to solve a major public health problem like drug addiction, it is important to first figure out how Americans view it,” Barry said. “Our findings suggest we have a long way to go to convince the public that drug addiction is a treatable condition and to persuade them that public policy can play an important role in reducing addiction.”

The questions of the study asked for yes or no answers and did not target any particular form of addiction or illness, such as schizophrenia or alcohol addiction. However, the researchers speculate that results would have been skewed if they had asked the public questions such as “Would you work with someone with Generalized Anxiety Disorder?” as opposed to “Would you work with

someone with schizophrenia?” because of the stereotypes associated with people suffering from each respective illness.

The results of the study revealed that only 22 percent of people surveyed were willing to work closely with someone suffering from drug addiction, yet 62 percent were willing to work closely with someone suffering from mental illness.

Even despite this discrepancy, attitudes toward mental illness have not always been relatively supportive. Public sentiments towards patients of mental illness are evolving; *USA Today* reported in a June 2014 article that Medicare allots less sick days for mental health issue than those for physical health. The Affordable Care Act (signed into law in 2010 by U.S. President Barack Obama) in contrast demands that health insurance companies provide equal coverage for physical and mental health issues.

Attitudes toward drug addiction are more stagnant. A study conducted between 1992 and 2012 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s National Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service showed that of the 23.2 million people in need of treatment for substance abuse, only 2.4 million received treatment at a specialty facility.

Regardless of the distinctions made between mental illness and addiction, Dr. Barry’s study reveals that a negative stigma persists for each illness.

“Less than a third of Americans believed that with treatment, recovery from either mental illness or addiction was possible. This is unfortunate because a key part of reducing stigma is convincing people that treatment can work,” says Barry.

How can the American public break down its stigma against sufferers of mental illness and substance abuse? Barry argues that shedding mass perceptions that all drug addicts are homeless, dangerous and slaves to their addictions, or that all sufferers of mental illness are crazy and hopeless, is the first step to recognizing that substance abuse and mental illness do not discriminate across barriers of race, age or socioeconomic status.

“It is critical that we put a human face on this issue to encourage the public to develop a broader view about who suffers from drug addiction than what they see typically on the news. When we think about the epidemic of prescription pain medication addiction in this country, it is clear that people from all walks of life can struggle with addiction,” Barry said.

Scientists study the brain’s regenerative program

For a long time it was widely believed that the adult mammalian brain was incapable of generating new neurons. During early development, a significant amount of neurogenesis (production of new neurons) occurs in order to form the nervous system. This neurogenic program was thought to shut down during adulthood, rendering the brain lacking in neurogenic capabilities.

However, the prevailing views of adult neurogenesis have since changed drastically. Adult neurogenesis has become a central tenet of contemporary neuroscience. It turns out that specific niches of the brain contain neural stem cells that can give rise to mature neurons. These adult-generated neurons have been suggested to provide the neural plasticity necessary for learning and memory, as well as regulating emotions and mood.

Interestingly, emerging lines of work are showing that adult neural stem cells become activated in response to various injury and other pathological conditions that result in neuronal loss. In many cases, these stem cells migrate to the injury sites and seem to give rise to new neurons. This self-repair process is severely inefficient, since newly generated neurons do not survive long enough and are not able to integrate into preexisting structures correctly. The big question then is how can we enhance this endogenous regenerative pathway to achieve better brain repair.

In an intriguing new study published in *Science Magazine*, Jena Magnusson and colleagues searched for an internal mechanism in the brain that can enhance neural regeneration. Using a mouse model of stroke, they discovered a novel pathway by which non-neuronal support cells can be turned into neurons. This newly unveiled pathway represents a new therapeutic target upon which drugs can act to enhance the endogenous repair response, potentially fostering a novel paradigm in the field of regenerative medicine.

Surrounding neurons in the brain are support cells called glia. These non-neuronal cells perform various functions that help maintain and support the nervous system, such as stabilizing connections and protecting neurons against pathogens. One of these glial cells, astrocytes, has gathered significant interest in terms of understanding brain regeneration. Following traumatic injury, astrocytes swell up and release factors that form a physical barrier around the injury site. This so called “glial scar” is thought to be a major contributor to the brain’s profound regenerative failure. Thus, astrocytes are thought to have negative effects on endogenous neural replacement.

Corroborating known findings, Magnusson and colleagues found that new neurons were generated following stroke in a mouse model. Previously it was believed that neural stem cells from other regions of the brain migrated to the injury site to facilitate injury-induced neurogenesis. However, the authors of the study discovered that the newly

generated neurons were actually derived from astrocytes using genetic tracing methods.

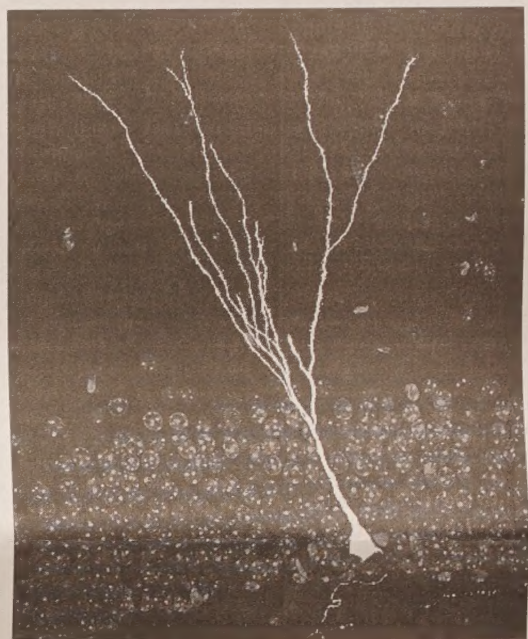
In addition to the finding that astrocytes carry the latent ability to become neurons, Magnusson and others also elucidated the biological pathway that underlies the neurogenic potential in astrocytes. During early development of the nervous system, a signaling pathway called Notch1 is critical for determining whether a cell will adopt a neuronal or glial phenotype. Notch1 signaling persists in the adult brain, where it seems to regulate the proliferative activity of neural stem cells. When Magnusson and others deactivated the Notch1 signaling pathway, they

were able to artificially induce astrocytes to turn into neurons. Likewise, by activating Notch1, they were able to block neurogenesis.

These findings show an unexpected biological pathway by which the brain’s endogenous regenerative mechanisms can be enhanced. This creates the potential for future drugs or other therapies that may be able to manipulate this pathway, leading to better treatments against

diseases or other pathological conditions by allowing the brain to more effectively replace lost or damaged neurons. In the realm of regenerative medicine, this is an exciting study that sets the stage for enhanced brain repair therapeutics.

Duy Phan The Brain Wave



COURTESY OF JASON SYNDER VIA FLICKR
Researchers found new neurons were generated in a mouse model.

Scientists discover Kabuki syndrome treatment

By **TONY WU**
Staff Writer

Kabuki syndrome, a newly-discovered genetic disease, has been the subject of several studies aimed at determining its causes and finding potential medications for treating the disease. Recently, a team at the School of Medicine has discovered a potential route for developing drugs that can treat the disease.

Genetic disorders arise from mutations in genes. These mutations are either inherited or occur after fertilization of the egg by sperm. While genetic disorders such as Down syndrome are more well-known, other genetic diseases — though debilitating — are less well-known because of their rarity. Kabuki syndrome is one of these more obscure diseases and only appears in one out of every 32,000 births.

The disease was first identified by Japanese scientists in the beginning of the 1980s. The scientists, Norior Niikawa and Yoshikazu Kuroki, named the disease Kabuki syndrome because those affected by the disease have faces that resemble performers with Kabuki makeup. The afflicted children often have hearing loss, growth deficiency and heart defects. In addition, 92 percent of Kabuki patients suffer from intellectual disability.

Scientists determined that the cause of Kabuki syndrome resides in a mutation in the gene MLL2. The mutation causes MLL2 to lose its regular function.

MLL2 is a gene that controls the way DNA wraps around histones, forming structures called chromatin. The densely compacted DNA allows the cell to store a lot of genetic information within

its nucleus. However, when DNA is compacted so densely, the cell needs special enzymes to unzip the wrapped DNA to perform regular cellular functions such as synthesizing proteins. These enzymes enable the cell to both unwrap the DNA for copying and rewrap it afterwards. Due to the MLL2 mutation, these enzymes cannot do their job properly.

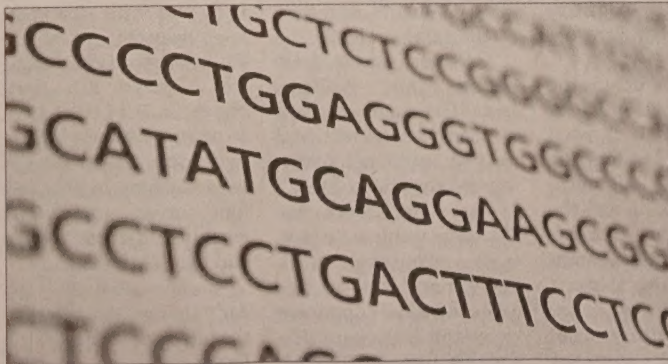
The MLL2 mutations disable the cell’s ability to access DNA. Therefore, the researchers, led by Hans Bjornsson, an assistant professor of pediatrics and genetics at the School of Medicine’s McKusick-Nathans Institute of Genetic Medicine, sought to alleviate the effects of Kabuki syndrome by altering the accessibility of DNA to the cell.

In one experiment, mice affected with a disease similar to Kabuki syndrome were treated with an anticancer drug called AR-42. Originally, AR-42 was developed for blood cancer, but it is also known for providing access to compacted DNA. The mice underwent

a two-week regimen and then were evaluated using a Morris water maze. The maze consists of a large pool of water and a platform that is submerged. To escape the maze, the mice need to find the platform through memorization of some or all of the following: actions needed to reach the platform, visual hints or correct spatial orientation. Because of the importance of memory in the navigation of the maze, researchers often use the Morris water maze as an assessment of memory.

In the comparison between mice treated with AR-42 and the untreated Kabuki syndrome-like mice, scientists discovered that AR-42 improved the development of neurons in the hippocampus. Mice treated with the anticancer drug were more developed in the dentate gyrus, a region responsible for the formation of memories. As a result, mice that were treated with AR-42 are better equipped to memorize the necessary actions and cues for the completion of the Morris maze.

Although the results of the studies suggest a possible drug for the treatment of Kabuki syndrome, the drug may take years to develop. However, this study and many others challenge the perception that the symptoms of genetic disorders have to be permanent.



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A mutation of the MLL2 gene causes Kabuki syndrome, a new, rare genetic disease.

SPORTS

Conflict arises with NBA's new TV deal

On Oct. 6, the NBA announced the much anticipated, lucrative national TV deals with ESPN and TNT that will come into effect for the 2016-2017 season. The new deals, which last through the 2024-2025 season, will pay the NBA \$2.66 billion annually, a massive increase that triples the \$930 million of the current deal.

The mind-boggling \$24 billion deal is expected to increase the league salary cap, and not by modest numbers. The salary cap for next season is projected to be around \$66 million; when the new deal kicks in for the 2016-17 season, it could leap to somewhere around \$80 million. In all its years, the NBA has never witnessed a one-year increase such as this. In fact, the previous record is a \$7.1 million upswing in 1996, half of the expected leap with this network deal.

The entire league is preparing for this unprecedented change. Teams are signing players to long-term deals, expecting that they will become undervalued based on the adapted standards. The Phoenix Suns signed point guard Eric Bledsoe to a 5-year, \$70 million contract that may appear ludicrous right now, but it will begin to make sense with the cap increase. In his return to the Cleveland Cavaliers, LeBron James signed a contract for just two years, with the max contract value likely to surge. Teams are clearing cap space in anticipation of a super-active free agency, with names like Kevin Durant and Al Horford entering the market.

But this piece of fortune for the NBA will not come without conflict. In the 2011 lockout, players felt they were disadvantaged by the new collective bargaining agreement formed. The players' share of the basketball-related income had shrunk from 57 percent to just 50 percent, and the new harsher luxury tax discouraged owners from spending over the cap limit.

With a possible lockout awaiting in 2016, the players are ready to fight back this time.

"The whole thing that went on with the last negotiation process was the owners were telling us that they were losing money," LeBron James said. "There's no way they can sit in front of us and tell us that right now after we continue to see teams selling for billions of dollars, being purchased for \$200 million, [selling] for \$550 [million], \$750 [million], \$2 billion. ... So, that will not fly with us this time."

This sentiment is shared among most players, and they have every right to feel this way. Players are pressured, both by the CBA and the general public, to be selfless and take less money than they can negotiate for, while the billionaire owners who pay them are profiting like never before.

Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers was scrutinized by many critics for signing a two-year, \$48 million extension at the age of 36, being called selfish.

"Most of us have aspirations for being businessmen when our playing careers are over," Bryant said. "But that starts now. You have to be able to wear both hats. You can't sit up there and say, 'Well, I'm going

Si Yeon Lee Sportpinion

to take substantially less because there's public pressure, because all of a sudden, if you don't take less, you don't give a crap about winning."

Players should have the right to negotiate for what they are worth as proper business partners to their franchises. Accepting what teams are willing to offer them should not come with the stigma of being indifferent to the success of the team. That responsibility falls to the owners and the GMs.

Oklahoma City Thunder superstar Durant recently inked a shoe deal with Nike that could earn him up to \$300 million over 10 years; that is the kind of value that these players can bring, and should be allowed to leverage for.

Yet the public disagrees. When Carmelo Anthony and Chris Bosh signed max contracts this offseason, many people saw them as "money grabbers", cashing in for more than they should be earning. Imbedded in this general mindset is a hidden narrative that these players should be grateful for the opportunity that these teams are giving them, and that they should be returning this

favor by taking less money.

If anything, it should be the other way around. The most crucial piece for the profit of these teams and owners is the on-court talent.

There is just a handful of talented basketball players in the world that people will pay to watch; they should be the ones with the upper hand. Kobe Bryant recognizes that. LeBron James recognizes that.

The new TV deal is the perfect opportunity for players to take back what they deserve. Leaders like LeBron James will make sure they do: "I am the kind of the guy that has the power, I guess, without even having to put a name on it. I'm very educated and I will use what I have to make sure our players are taken care of," he said.

BLUE JAY SPORTS SCOREBOARD			
Volleyball	Water Polo	Men's Soccer	Men's Soccer
October 11, 2014	October 11, 2014	October 11, 2014	October 14, 2014
@ Ursinus	@ George Washington	@ Ursinus	@ Neumann
W, 3-0	W, 15-13	T, 0-0 (2OT)	W, 1-0
Field Hockey	Women's Soccer	Women's Tennis	Men's Tennis
October 11, 2014	October 11, 2014	October 9-11, 2014	October 11, 2014
vs. Ursinus	@ Ursinus	@ ITA Championship	vs. Amherst
L, 2-0	W, 4-0	Rao: Champion	L, 5-4

DeStefano goal lifts Jays past Neumann

By JOHN STOLLER
For The News-Letter

The Hopkins men's soccer team battled two Pennsylvania opponents, — one of which was a Centennial Conference rival — this past week in the heart of a 10-day, four-game game stretch of tough games away from Homewood Field. Seeing a total of only one goal in 200 minutes of play over the two games against Neumann University and in-conference rival Ursinus, the Jays battled for a hard fought win and draw, respectively.

Head coach Craig Appleby's squad looked to continue its recent success against in-conference opponents Saturday in Collegeville, Pa. against a 4-6-1 Ursinus Bears squad. Both teams, each to their disappointment, battled through 110 minutes of damp, cloudy, cold conditions to a scoreless draw. Nevertheless, this was not the worst thing that could happen to the Jays, who are in the midst of a run of matches against Centennial Conference opponents that could determine whether the team remains in the middle of a tough 10-team race or even gains ground on leaders Franklin & Marshall and Dickinson. The draw put the Blue Jays at 7-3-2 overall, while 2-2-1 in conference.

The match was not without action; Hopkins peppered the Bears goalie, Brian Gately, with 10 shots, compared to the home team's five. Sophomore Matt Paris held firm between the pipes to the tune of his fifth shutout of the season. Gately's performance was one of the main obstacles for the Blue Jays, and he was recently named the Centennial Conference Men's Soccer Defender of the Week for that effort. Senior midfielder Kotaro Mitsuhashi and junior defender Kenny DeStefano contributed a sizable portion to the Blue Jay offensive attack, adding a combined five shots on goal.

Sophomore forward Matt Williams summed up the game perfectly.

"Ursinus was a frustrating game," Williams said. "The team was very compact defensively and we just could not find a way to break them down."

Three days later, the Blue Jays went back at it, again venturing north into Pennsylvania to face non-conference opponent Neumann University. The Knights were 4-7-1 heading into the match, and Hopkins looked to take

advantage of a very winnable game, especially with undefeated rival Franklin & Marshall on the horizon. The Jays executed well, emerging with a 1-0 victory on a warm, yet breezy, evening.

In the 39th minute, DeStefano made a good run on a through ball. Though he missed his first shot, he steadfastly stayed on the ball and put his follow-up chance in the back of the net. The junior also put six shots on goal, with his only one on target being the eventual game winner. Senior keeper Nick Cerrone played the full 90 minutes in goal and finished with two saves, securing the clean sheet. Sophomore Rikuo Nakamoto came off the bench later in the match and had some promising play as well, generating offensive pressure in the second half.

The Blue Jays opened



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Hopkins has held its opponents scoreless in the past two games.

the game by dominating on offense, outshooting the Knights 8-0. Though the home team was finally able to put some shots on goal in the second half, it was too little too late and the Jays were able to take home a victory.

Summarizing both games, Williams stressed that goals were at a premium and that it was important to remain focused.

"The toughest part was

not stooping our level of play [to the opponent]," he said. "We were given a lot of space in the back and it was hard to fight the tendency to be complacent and play down to the level of the competition."

This most recent win puts Hopkins at 8-3-2 on the season. The Blue Jays will take the pitch in a critical away match against Franklin & Marshall on Oct. 18.

Volleyball team cruises in straight sets

By GAURAV VERMA
Staff Writer

The Hopkins Women's Volleyball team continued its successes against Ursinus, picking up its third straight win in a dominating sweep of the Bears. After a rough start to the season, the Lady Jays have now won eight of their last 10, putting them at 12-10 for the season and 4-2 in Centennial Conference play.

The Lady Jays faced difficulties in the first set; the team hit just .093. Yet Hopkins grinded out a 29-27 win in a back-and-forth set that featured several lead changes. From the first set on, the Lady Jays took control of the match. They won the second set, hitting .344 en route to a 25-19 victory. Hopkins then put on a clinic for the supportive fans in the third set, hitting .565 en route to a 25-9 win and straight sets victory.

Freshman Liz Wuerstle and Junior Ali Cox led the Lady Jays with 12 and 10 kills, respectively. Meanwhile, setters Kristi Rhead and Carolyn Zin combined for 31 of the team's 35 assists. Defensively, Senior Anne Cohen led the way, notching 16 digs and four service aces, while Freshman Mereze Visagie had two solo blocks.

Visagie attributed the early game struggles to the high-paced play of the Bears.

"Adjusting to Ursinus's tempo was difficult," Vis-

agie said. "We made too many unforced errors, especially with untimely service errors near the end of the match."

Despite the rocky start, Visagie believes that the team has grown and matured during the recent stretch of games.

"We've really been working on mental toughness during our practices," she said. "As a result, I think those skills helped us to keep our composure so that we could play our game and win the [first] set."

She also mentioned that specific adjustments the team made included focusing on players' individual responsibilities, being mindfully aggressive and playing hard at all times.

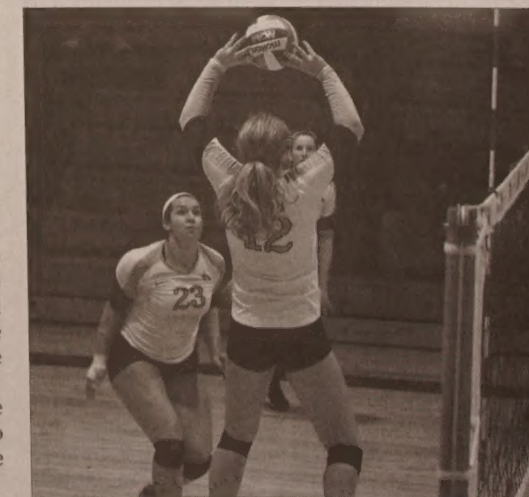
"Our aggressive play helped us to dominate in

the second and third set," she said. "Making adjustments to our blocking game allowed us to shut down their primary outside attacker."

Visagie feels the team is beginning to hit its stride after a rough start in which the Lady Jays were unable to put together a winning streak.

"We began to find the right balance between the growth mindset and competitive energy," she said. "We still need to improve on staying mentally tough and eliminating runs of unforced errors, but the Ursinus match really demonstrated that the hard work that we put in the practice gym and weight room is beginning to pay off."

The Lady Jays play host to Haverford at 1 p.m. this Sunday.



NANCY KIM/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Hopkins has now won eight of their past 10 matches this season.

SPORTS

Field hockey falls to 5-7 with loss to Bears

By SHANNON LIBAW
For The News-Letter

In continuation of what has been an up and down season, the Hopkins women's field hockey team suffered a 2-0 loss to Ursinus this past Saturday at Homewood Field. The loss lowers the team's record to 5-7 overall and 2-3 in conference. The Lady Jays have been inconsistent as they have yet to string together a streak of more than two wins in a row.

While the Bears notched their third shut-out and improved to 11-1 overall, the Lady Jays were able to hold them to their second lowest scoring mark of the season. Additionally, the Bears maintained a perfect record in Centennial Conference play as Ursinus appears to be the favorite to take home the CC championship this season.

Coming into the game ranked third overall in scoring with almost six goals per game, Ursinus came out strong at the start of the game. After 27 minutes, they were on the board with two quick goals, taking a 2-0 lead. For the Bears, sophomore Danielle Stong drove a corner pass to teammate Kelsey Reed, who then shortly scored past Hopkins junior goaltender Zoey Atabek.

The Lady Jays prioritized defense coming into the game. Atabek led the way with 16 saves in goal, just one shy of her career mark. Senior Danielle Thompson had two defensive saves and contributed to the team's success in the game by shutting down the Bear's offense after the initial two goals. Meanwhile at the other end of the field, Ursinus goaltender Danielle Despirito did not face much pressure as she notched just one save throughout the entire game.

After solving the Lady Jay's defense for the first time, Bears forward Megan Keenan collected a pass from her teammate and drove a beautiful shot for the second goal past Atabek. While the Lady Jays were unable to get on the board, they had their work cut out for them, as Ursinus is currently ranked fifth overall in the NCAA D-III standings. Additionally, Hopkins held the Bears to their lowest scoring game since September 10th.

One factor that proved to have an effect on the

Lady Jays' performance was the fact that they had just played two games earlier that week, including one against the Swarthmore Garnet and another against a top-ranked opponent in Franklin and Marshall. The fatigue began to show towards the end of the second half as the Lady Jay defense was pushed to the max.

In the Swarthmore game, the Lady Jays came out firing, with senior Lucy Woodrow scoring a goal in just twelve minutes. After receiving a pass from sophomore Austin Davis, Woodrow then scored another, notching her third of the season. At 68:17, sophomore Liz Stillman fired a shot into the bottom left corner, capping the 7-0 victory for Hopkins.

Sophomore Shannon Cosgrove commented about the mentality heading into the game against the Bears.

"Ursinus is always a tough game and it took a lot of focus, especially on defense, to hold them to only two goals," Cosgrove said.

Both Cosgrove and Atabek noted that maintaining good offensive possession might significantly help performance.

"I think we need to capitalize on scoring opportunities," Atabek said. "I think we're learning from each game and we're really excited for our final five games that are all against conference teams."

The Lady Jays are back in action on Friday, Oct. 17 against Haverford at 7 p.m. at Homewood Field. The Lady Jays have only five games remaining against predominantly conference opponents, including tough matchups against Dickinson, Bryn Mawr, McDaniel, and Gettysburg. While Ursinus is likely the toughest test the Lady Jays will face all season, in order to have a chance of making the playoffs, the team will look to find a way to put together its first winning streak of the season. Haverford currently holds a record of 5-7 overall on the season while capturing only one victory in five games in conference play. This matchup is a favorable one for the Lady Jays as they hope to put the tough loss against the Bears behind them.



NANCY KIM/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Lady Jays were held scoreless against a tough Ursinus foe.

By SHANE COUGHLIN
Staff Writer

The official spring tennis season has not yet begun and already, a Blue Jay athlete has made history. Sophomore Ashnaa Rao of the Hopkins women's tennis team won three straight matches in a span of three days to secure the National Small College Singles Championship and even earned a spot in the dubbed 'Super Bowl' Championship on the following day.

The streak began with an impressive upset delivered to the No. 1 seed of the tournament in straight sets. Rao then faced junior Beatrice Rosen of Emory in a rematch of last year's NCAA semifinals. Although their previous encounter ended early in favor of Emory, Rao moved on to the title match after making quick work of Rosen in just 18 games (6-4, 6-2).

In the final match, Rao took on fellow unseeded player Megan Humphreys from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater who also fought her way against ranked competition and into the finals. Rao started strong, pounding a 6-2 first set victory. Humphreys forced a third set with a 6-3 win in the second set. Rao prevailed in the end with a 6-4 set, improving

her season record to 9-0 in singles match play.

With her victory, she becomes the first Hopkins tennis player, male or female, to win an Intercollegiate Tennis Association Championship. Her historic weekend, her consistent effort and her tremendous achievement of going undefeated in the fall season earned Rao *The News-Letter's* Athlete of the Week honors. She was kind enough to reflect on her performances for us and answer a few questions.

The News-Letter: What does it feel to have a place in the Hopkins tennis record books?

Ashnaa Rao: It's crazy because during both of the tournaments, I was taking things one match at a time and never really thought that far ahead and now that I've broken history for Hopkins still doesn't feel real to me.

N-L: Looking back, how does it feel to have been initially unseeded only to upset the top seeds on your way to the finals?

AR: Initially being unseeded was nice because I entered the tournament with no pressure. Being a seeded player, you are the one that is expected to win so not having this pressure really helped me to relax and focus on my tennis.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK ASHNAA RAO - WOMEN'S TENNIS



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Rao downed Humphreys in three sets to win the ITA Championship.

N-L: What did you think of your performance in the first few games of the tournament?

AR: I felt that I competed well on Friday and Saturday. The matches were tough and I faced good opponents throughout the tournament but I was able to keep my focus and competed hard.

N-L: What can you say about the upcoming season and what's in store for the team?

AR: I think my team is going to do great things this season. Everyone has been working really hard and I think that we have a great opportunity to do really well this year.

N-L: Now in your second year on the team, do you feel any different with championship and season experience under your belt?

AR: Being a sophomore, I have had a year of experience and I think this helped as I feel as I have matured a lot since then. I had a rib injury last year and did not get to play most of the season so that really helped

to motivate me to want to do well this year now that I am finally healthy again.

N-L: What can you say about Director of Tennis Dave Woodring and his inspiration throughout your playing career so far?

AR: My coach has always been so supportive. He is such a hard worker and has a passion for the game and most importantly cares so much about each and every person on my team. I'm so lucky to have him as our team coach because he really helps and pushes us to be the best tennis players and people we can be.

The Lady Jays tennis team will be seeking its third consecutive title when they return to action in February for the Intercollegiate Tennis Association National Team Indoor Championship. The team has enjoyed success throughout this fall, capped by Rao's incredible performance this past weekend, and will look to build on the campaign when Centennial Conference play begins in the spring.

Lady Jays win their ninth straight match

By RACHEL COOK
Staff Writer

Coming on the heels of a dominant winning streak, the Hopkins women's soccer team traveled to Collegeville, Pa. to face off against Ursinus this past Saturday in a Centennial Conference showdown.

The Lady Jays were in control throughout the match, shutting out the Bears by a final score of 4-0. Four different Blue Jays scored in the shut-out, with the first goal coming just 90 seconds into the match. Senior Hannah Kronick passed the ball cross field to sophomore Ana Bengoechea, who knocked it into the left-hand side of the goal, bringing the score to 1-0.

At the 21-minute mark, Bengoechea passed to senior teammate Alyssa Conti, setting her up for the goal, bringing the score to 2-0. The Lady Jays were not able to score again as the half came to a close.

As the second half began, Kronick would secure her second assist of the game on a goal from senior Sydney Teng to extend the lead to three.

Entering the 84th minute, freshman Sophie Murphy scored the final goal of the match, bringing the total to 4-0, putting the icing on the cake and sealing the fate for

Ursinus. Sophomore goaltender Clara Aranguren tallied one save in the match, earning her fifth victory of the season.

According to sophomore Adrienne Johnson, the offensive intensity was a necessary part of the team's game plan.

"We are definitely not a team that will hold back and wait for the other team," Johnson said. "We go for it 100 percent of the time. This is the style of play that has been in place since last season. We don't hold back and play a more defensive-minded game, even against teams that might not match up as well with us."

The Lady Jays outshot the Bears 19-4 throughout regulation. The Blue Jays maintained position throughout the game, without the threat of a comeback from the Bears.

"Having that kind of freedom in the game was nice," Johnson said. "It allowed us to try out different combinations and be creative on the field."

The Lady Jays experimented with different rotations on the field in preparation for their upcoming game against Haverford. Haverford is one of the top-ranked teams in the conference and thus poses a threat to the Lady Jays' playoff hopes.

"They always give us

a good game," Johnson said. "However, our coaches have been pushing us in practice more, having us scrimmage and getting us comfortable with high pressure, game-like scenarios.

We are definitely prepared and ready for the game."

The last five games of the regular season are all against conference opponents. Johnson believes that each of those games should be treated like a playoff matchup.

"We are playing each game as if it were the Centennial Conference tournament," Johnson said. "Because each team is a conference opponent, we cannot hold anything back. We are definitely looking to win the tournament and we are also looking ahead to the NCAA tournament. We know that in order to rank well in the national poll, we need to keep winning, and that is what we plan to do. So for now, we just need to focus on what is in front of us."

The Lady Jays are cur-



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Goalie Clara Aranguren got her fifth win in goal.

rently 5-0 in the Centennial Conference and 11-2 overall on the season, including their current nine-game winning streak. Johnson offered insight into the team's strategy as the tournament approaches.

"The main thing that we have switched up from last year that will put us over the top in the tournament is our formation," Johnson said. "We changed our formation from last year, and it definitely took some time to get used to. Now that we are at the end of the season, we are much more comfortable with the formation and it can be seen through our wins on the field. We are able to effectively utilize space and take advantage of the space that opposing teams will give us."

SPORTS

Did You Know?

Ashnaa Rao's USTA/ITA National Small College Singles Championship is the first in school history for any tennis player, male or female.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY
Field Hockey vs. Haverford, 7 p.m.
SATURDAY
Women's Soccer vs. Haverford, 1 p.m.
SUNDAY
Water Polo @ CWPA D-III Championship

Lady Jays jump to 11-2 with 4-0 win



NANCY KIM/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

The Ursinus Bears were no match for the Hopkins women's soccer team. The Lady Jays pushed four goals to the back of the net to extend their winning streak to nine games. As the final few weeks of the season approach, the Lady Jays hope to build off of all of their recent success and carry this momentum into the Centennial Conference playoffs.

Men's Soccer soars past Neumann

Junior Kenny DeStefano scored the lone goal of the match, and senior Nick Cerrone recorded the shutout as the Blue Jay soccer team bested Neumann 1-0 on Tuesday night. **Page B10**

Athlete of the Week: Ashnaa Rao

Prior to the start of the spring season, sophomore Ashnaa Rao made history as she won three straight matches to earn the title of ITA Small College Singles Champion. **Page B11**

Field Hockey drops to 5-7

The Hopkins field hockey team was shut out 2-0 versus fifth-ranked Ursinus. The Lady Jays battled hard, but came up short of a victory. They fall to 5-7 on the season. **Page B11**

Water polo secures late victory in D.C.

By TARIQ OMER
Staff Writer

The Hopkins men's water polo team won in sensational fashion this past weekend as they beat the George Washington Colonials 15-13 in CWPA Southern Division competitive play.

The Jays travelled to the nation's capital on Oct. 11 seeking a win that would improve their record from 6-6 overall and 2-2 in league play. While the Colonials were in a bit of a form slump, they too looked primed to improve their winless league record from 0-4 and overall record from 8-8, and their home pool would be the best place to do it.

The evening game started right after 7 p.m., and before most people were in their seats, the Colonials had a 2-1 advantage and were looking well on their way to claiming their first win in league play. The Hopkins men would not back down, and rebutted with a cascade of seven unanswered goals to take a commanding 8-2 lead by the end of the first period.

Junior Langdon Froomer led the charge as he scored his first of three that night to tie the game at 2-2. Classmate Garrett Davidson and sophomore Matt Frasier were not far behind, and followed suit by scoring three more goals between the two of them, with just 18 seconds between the first and the third; Davidson had the first two and Frasier complimented his two with a goal of his own.

Following the three-goal barrage, senior Johnny Beal added his name to the scoreboard with two back-to-back goals within a 22-second span that extended the Jays lead to 6-2. Davidson and Frasier then found the net again to round out the first period with the Jays up 8-2.

The George Washington Colonials would not submit though, and came into the second period firing. A combination of Colonial goals and the Jays blanking served to render the score 8-6 at halftime, with the Colonials having all the momentum heading into the break. The Colonials' comeback was started by a five-meter goal from Ridvan Pehlivan. His Colonial teammates took note and followed up with a four-goal rout in just over two minutes of play. The scoring subsided and both teams were given a reprieve to enter halftime.

Pehlivan picked up right where he left off, as he scored to open the third quarter. His point brought the game to a mere one-goal margin. However, Froomer rescued the Jays and broke their scoring drought with a goal in the seventh minute mark to double the Hopkins lead.

However, the Colonials, having been within touching distance of a level score, refused to be denied and tied the game at 9-9 with 3:34 remaining until the fourth. Back-to-back goals from Colonials' Brian Mojica and Bogdan Petkovic brought the Colonials back to level ground with the Jays for the first time since the opening whistle. Mojica capitalized on a power play to bring the Colonials back to within a point before Petkovic tied it up.

It was the Jays, though, who would have the last say in the quarter, as they ended the period up 11-9 on the back of goals from Froomer and Frasier. Froomer put in his third goal that night to give the Jays their lead before Frasier doubled that lead with his own third goal with seven seconds remaining in the period.

It was Pehlivan again, for the third time that night, who opened the scoring in the fourth. The goal was his second penalty marker and fourth overall goal. The Jays responded with a quick goal from Frasier, who was then followed by Petkovic scoring his third for the Colonials to complete a hat trick. The score read a 12-11 Jays advantage midway through the fourth.

The Jays quickly increased their lead to four goals, a lead that proved too much for the Colonials to overcome. Senior Wes Hopkins had two in a row hit the net before sophomore Gio Cragnotti added to the tally with one of his own. The Colonials added two goals later in the game but came up just short with the Jays proving victorious in the end.

"It was a huge win for us heading into the D-III eastern championships," Froomer said. "They got a huge crowd and it was nice to go in there and quiet them."

Frasier had a season-high four goals, Froomer had three of his own and junior Erik Henrikson had 11 saves and four steals. Hopkins returns to action this weekend at the CWPA D-III Championship, for which they hold the top seed.



MANYU SHARMA/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Frasier scored four times as the Blue Jays downed George Washington.

Men's tennis battles with defending champs

By JASON PLUSH
Sports Editor

On a beautiful, crisp fall Saturday morning, the Hopkins men's tennis team welcomed Amherst to nearby Morgan State University for a matchup that featured the defending Division III national champions in Amherst and the seventh-seeded Jays. The match proved to be the most highly-contested of the Jays' brief



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Buxbaum notched two big wins.

fall season, as Hopkins pushed the Lord Jeffs to the brink before falling 5-4. The match was one of the longest that the Jays have played this season, as the doubles and singles brackets combined to take over four hours long.

While the Jays often come out firing on all cylinders, it was Amherst who was able to capture the early advantage in the match. To begin, the Hopkins duo of senior Tanner Brown and freshman Justin Kang at third doubles was unable to find a rhythm against Amherst senior Andrew Arnaboldi and junior Andrew Yaraghi who claimed the match by a final score of 8-3. The Lord Jeffs extended their lead to 2-0 in the second doubles match when the powerful serves

of Amherst juniors Russell Einbinder and Michael Solimano proved to be the demise of junior Nicholas Garcia and senior Noah Joachim. However, the sophomore powerhouse combination of Michael Buxbaum and Emerson

Walsh delivered at first doubles for Hopkins, preventing the doubles sweep by defeating Aaron Revzin and Andrew Scheiner 8-6.

Moving into the singles portion of the match, with the Jays trailing 2-1, Buxbaum delivered for the second time during the match as he dismantled Solimano in straight sets by final scores of 6-4, 6-1. Buxbaum, who returned to Baltimore after competing in the USTA/ITA National College Tournament in Sumter, S.C., showed zero signs of fatigue and quickly disposed of the number one player from the 2014 national championship team.

After knotting the score at 2-2, sophomore Jeremy Dubin gave Hopkins the lead after defeating Scheiner in straight sets 6-2, 6-1 at fifth singles. Dubin only lost three games in the entire match and rarely dropped a point on serve. However, the lead was short lived

for Hopkins as Revzin returned to the court and defeated senior Ben Hwang in straight sets 7-5, 6-1 at second singles. Revzin was able to avenge his loss to Buxbaum and Walsh in doubles and level the match at 3-3.

Shortly thereafter, Brown battled Yaraghi at third singles and dropped a heartbreaker in the first set of the match, falling in a tiebreaker, 7-6. However, Brown was unable to find his serve and was broken twice in the second set before falling 6-2. The Lord Jeffs now clung to a 4-3 lead and needed just one more victory to seal the match.

With the risk of allowing the Lord Jeffs to claim the victory, Joachim entered the court and cruised to an easy straight-sets victory by a final score of 6-2, 6-1 against Schiener.

With the match deadlocked at 4-4 and only the sixth singles match remaining, the outcome of the match was set to be decided by a faceoff featuring Walsh and Arnaboldi. As befitting of a match of this magnitude, it required three sets overall. Hopkins appeared to have the early advantage after Walsh battled to a 7-6 first set victory, but Arnaboldi brought the Jeffs back by downing Walsh in the second set, 6-3. In the third set of the match, Walsh broke early and was unable to recover as Arnaboldi took the set 6-3, sealing the victory for Amherst by a final of 5-4.

As mentioned above, Buxbaum and Walsh also

traveled to South Carolina to compete in the ITA National Small College Championships. In the singles bracket, Buxbaum took home fourth place overall. After being dominant in his first match of the tournament, Buxbaum fell in his second match to Matt Heinrich of Stevens in straight sets 6-2, 7-5. He then withdrew from the third place match to return home for the match against Amherst.

In the doubles bracket, Buxbaum and Walsh teamed up as the first Hopkins duo to ever earn a seed at the ITA tournament, the first seed overall. Much to the dismay of the talented duo, Buxbaum and Walsh were ousted in the first round of the tournament in a three-set heartbreaker and eventually ended the tournament in seventh place overall.

While the outcome wasn't what they wanted it to be, Walsh is still confident in the duo's ability to succeed.

"We came into the tournament feeling pretty solid about our play. I really think Mike and I are playing great doubles right now. We now have the chance to be the best doubles pair when the spring season comes around."

The trip to South Carolina and the team match against Amherst concluded the fall season for the Jays, and the boys will continue to build off of their successes and improve on their game in preparation for an exciting spring season.